

# Local features detection and description

MVA – Vision 3D artificielle

Loic Landrieu

[loiclandrieu.com](http://loiclandrieu.com)

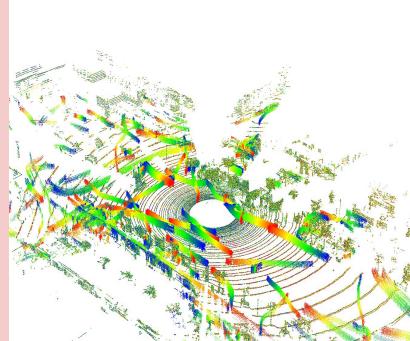
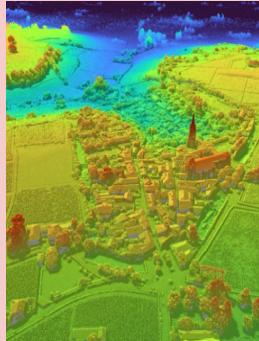
With slides from Mathieu Aubry, Renaud Marlet and François Darmon

# What do I work on?

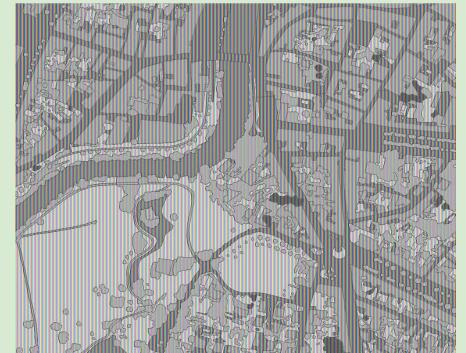
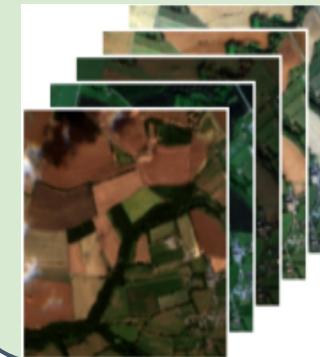
-> let me know if you are interested in internships/PhDs on these topics

Main Focus: **Efficient machine learning + large-scale geospatial data**

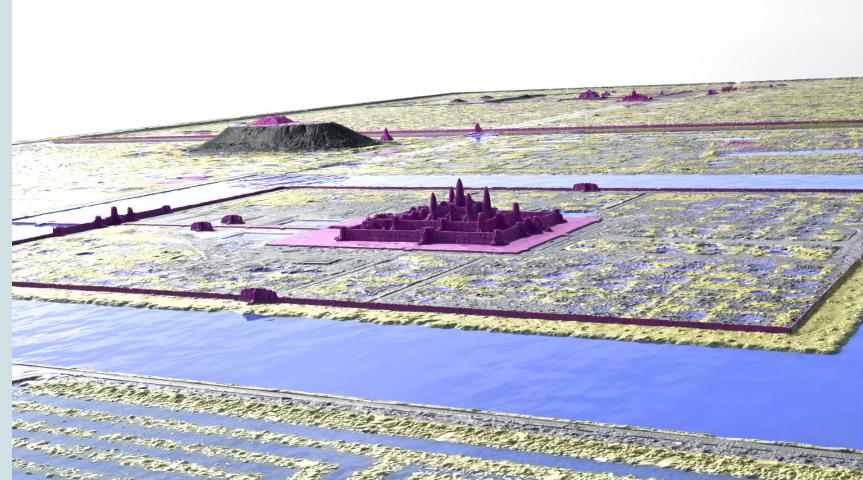
3D data: large-scale + real time + forestry



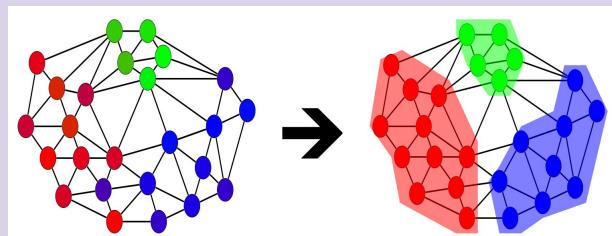
Earth observation: crop mapping /food security



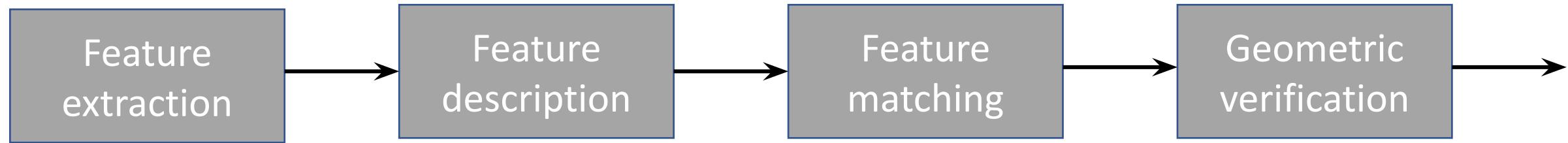
historical  
geodata:



optimization on graphs:



# Local features and correspondences pipeline for 3D reconstruction

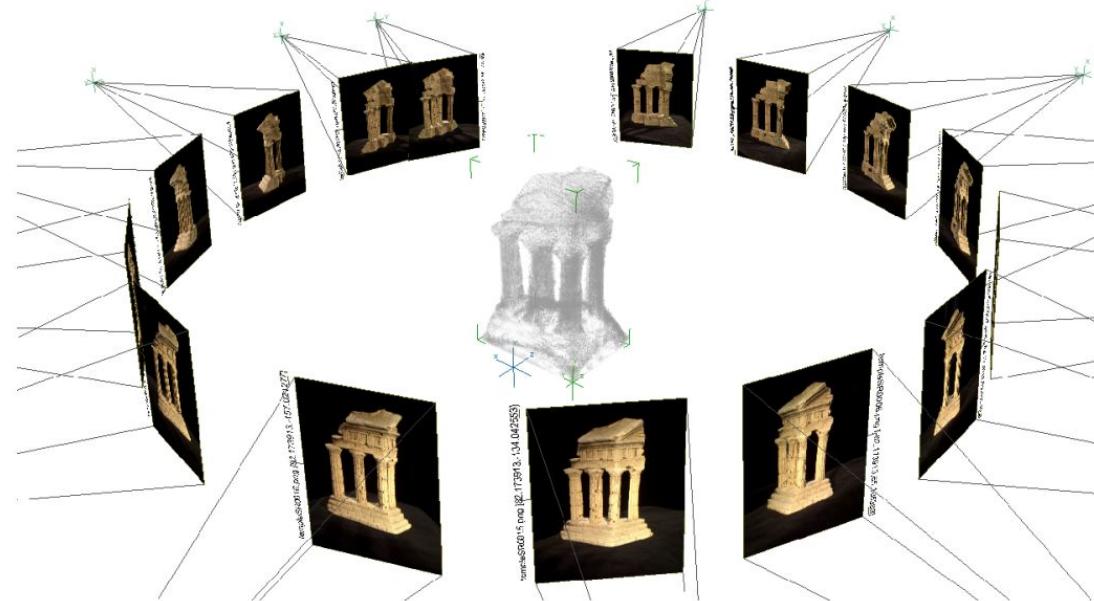


Extract location of  
'local features'  
(interest points, keypoints)

Summarize their  
appearance in a vector

Find matching  
features

Filter the matches  
based on geometry



Credit: Shilin Zhu

# Motivation: panorama

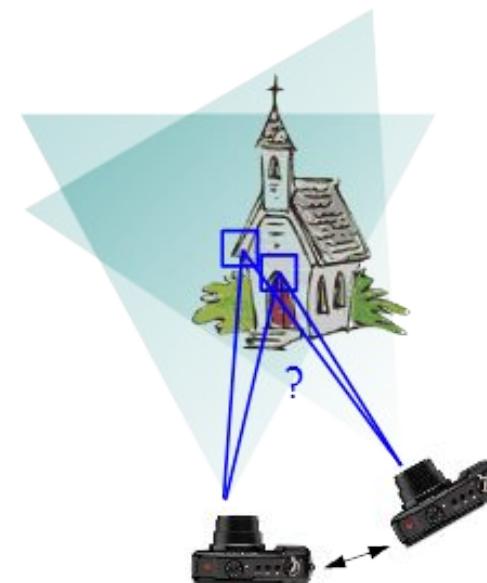


+

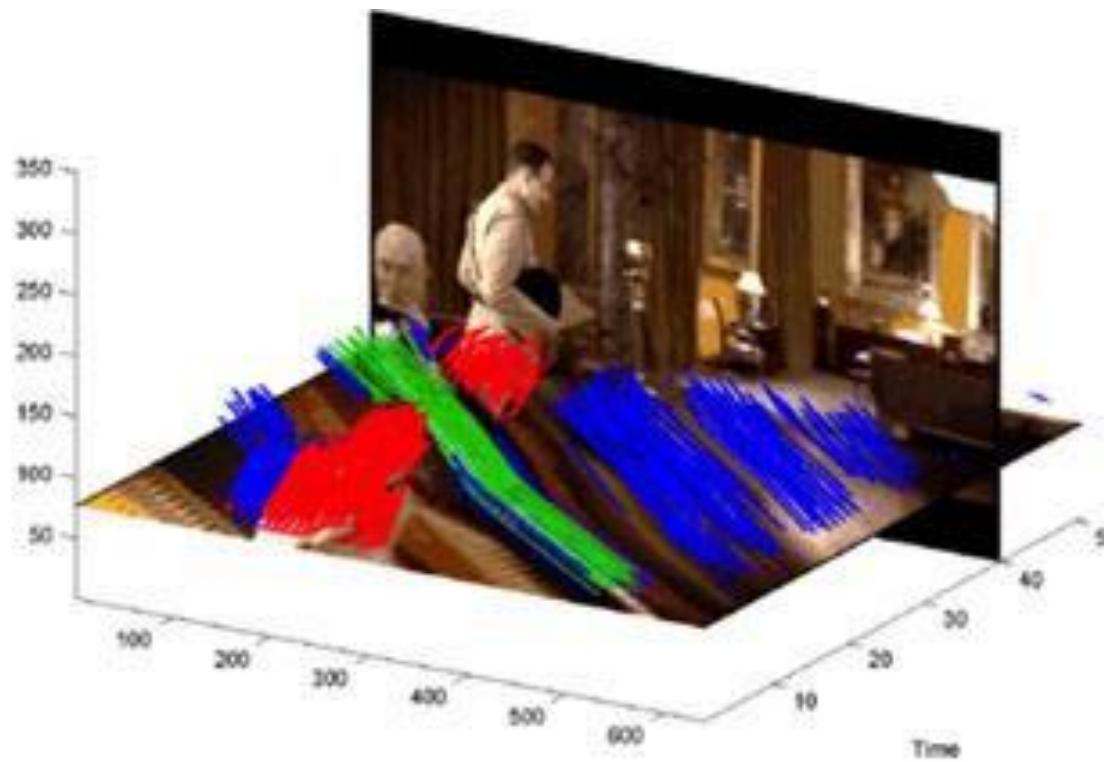


# 3D reconstruction

- External camera calibration
  - = determination of pose (i.e., location and orientation) of each camera in a common coordinate system
  - requires enough corresponding points in several images
  - **detection** and **matching** of salient points
- Dense 3D reconstruction
  - = by triangulation, given camera pose
  - (!) not restricted to salient points only
  - requires **matching** image patches in several images



# Motivation: tracking



*J. Lezama, K. Alahari, J. Sivic, I. Laptev*

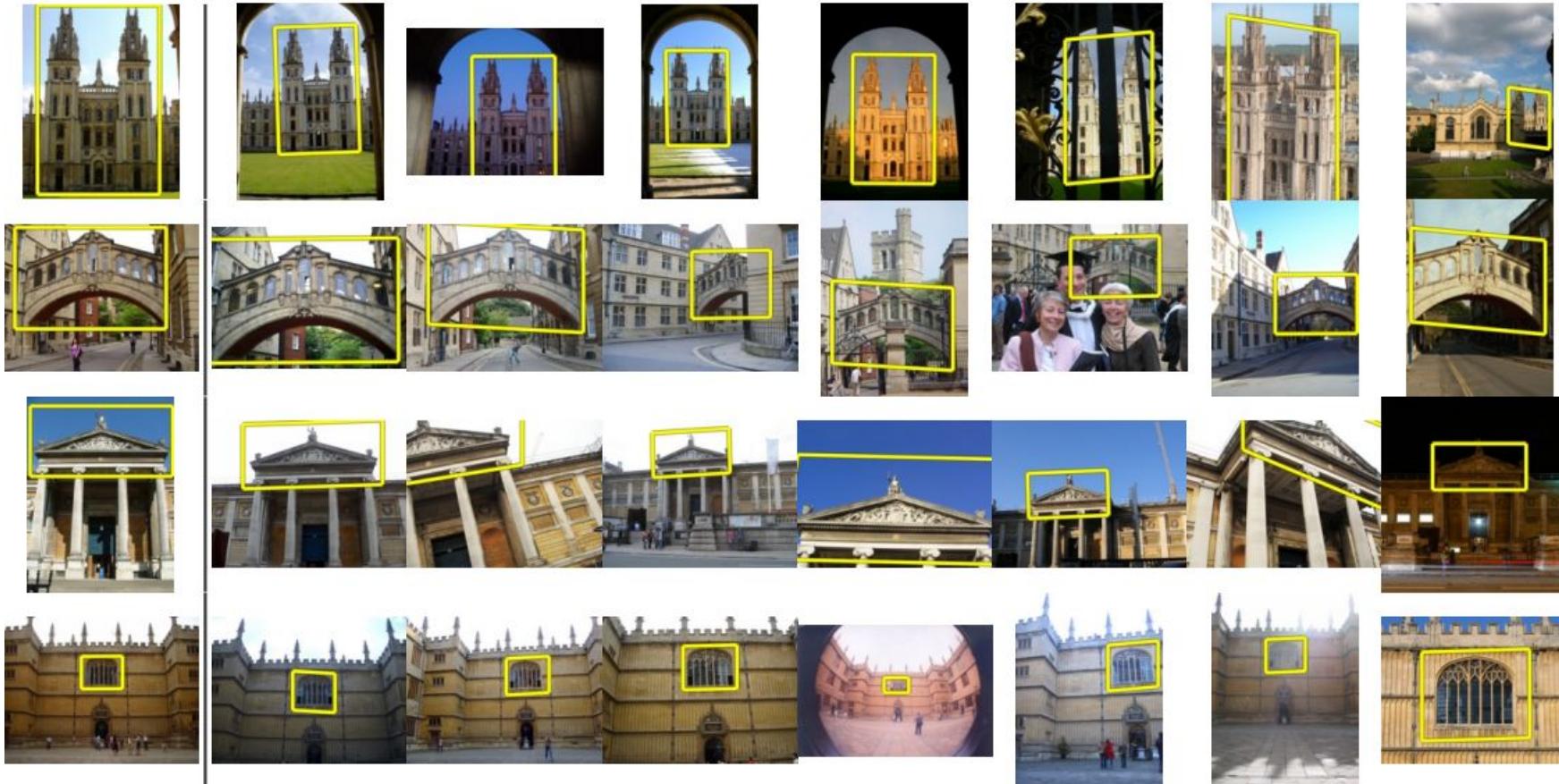
**Track to the Future: Spatio-temporal Video Segmentation with Long-range Motion Cues**  
**CVPR 2011**

# Motivation: instance retrieval



1. Identify salient points
2. Look for similar salient points in other image
3. Check geometrical consistency (rigid or deformable)

# Motivation: content-based image retrieval



*Philbin, J. , Chum, O. , Isard, M. , Sivic, J. and Zisserman, A.*  
**Object retrieval with large vocabularies and fast spatial matching**  
**CVPR 2007**

# Difficulty



*Illumination changes*

# Difficulty



*Season changes*

# Difficulty



*Viewpoint changes*

# Difficulty



*Clutter and occlusion*

# Difficulty

- change of scale (camera motion or change of focal length)
- change of orientation (rotation)
- change of viewpoint (affine, projective transformations)
- change of illumination (time of day, weather, flash...)

And also

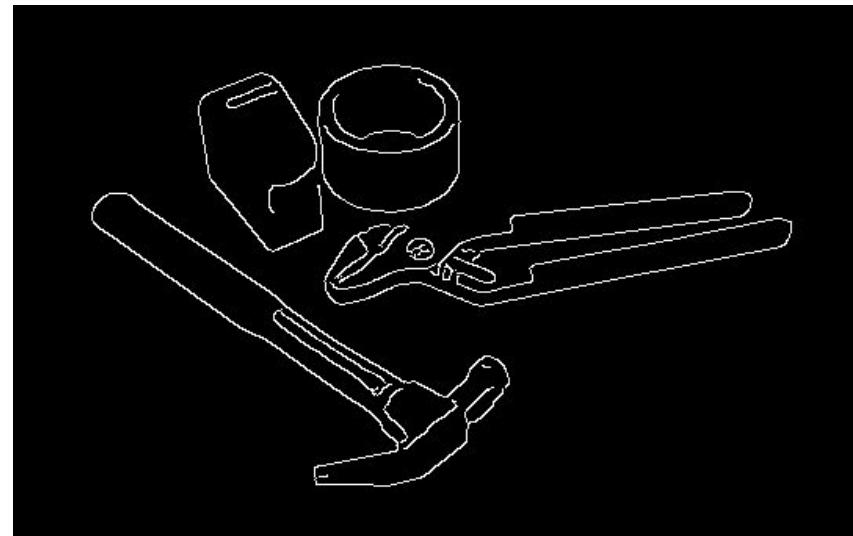
- change of camera parameters (speed/aperture ...)
- non-rigid scene (objects in motion, deformable surface)
- surface reflectance (Lambertian or not, reflection,transpar.)
- repetitive patterns (windows, road marks...)

# What is a local feature?

- Distinctive and identifiable region of an image
- Invariant to various transformations and noise
- Can be retrieved robustly
  - Points
  - Edges
  - Regions

# Which features?

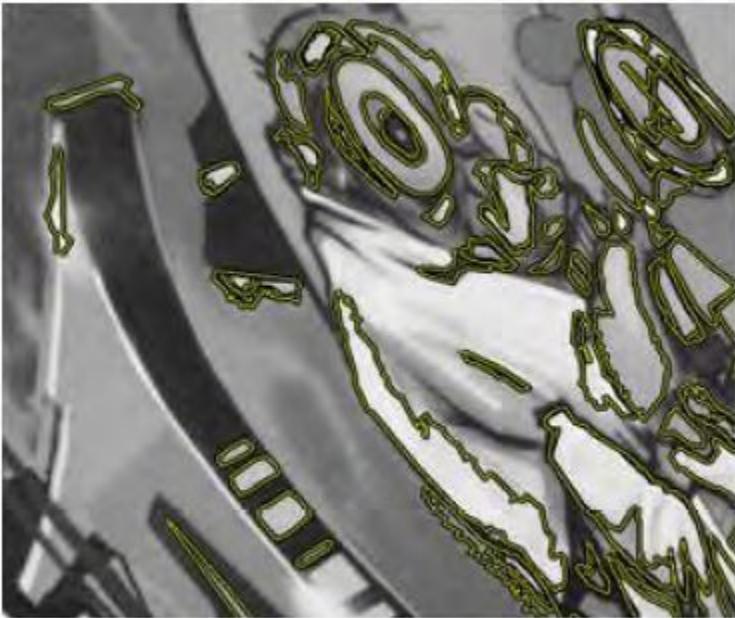
- Edges: eg. Canny edges



Canny, J. (1986). A computational approach to edge detection.  
*IEEE Transactions on pattern analysis and machine intelligence*

# Which features?

- Regions: eg. MSER (maximally stable extremal regions)



J. Matas, O. Chum, M. Urban, and T. Pajdla. Robust wide-baseline stereo from maximally stable extremal regions. *Image and Vision Computing*, 2004

# Which features?

- Simple regions, blobs: eg. Harris-affine



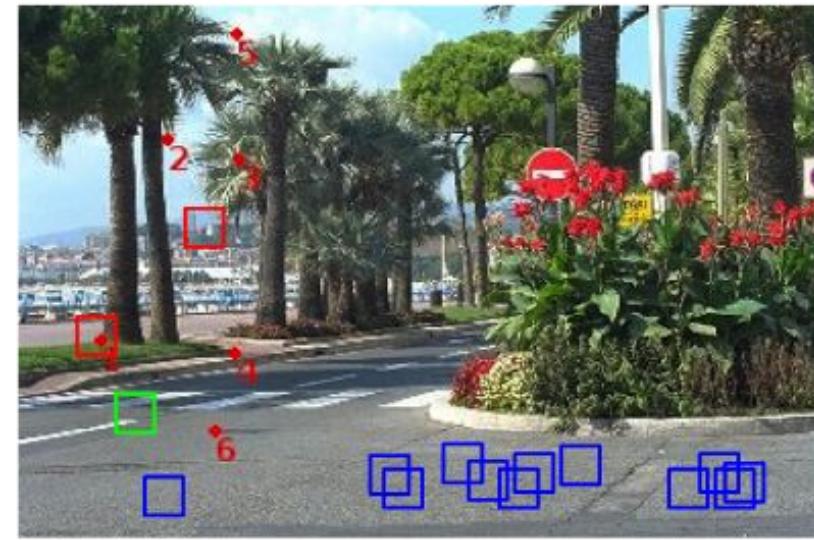
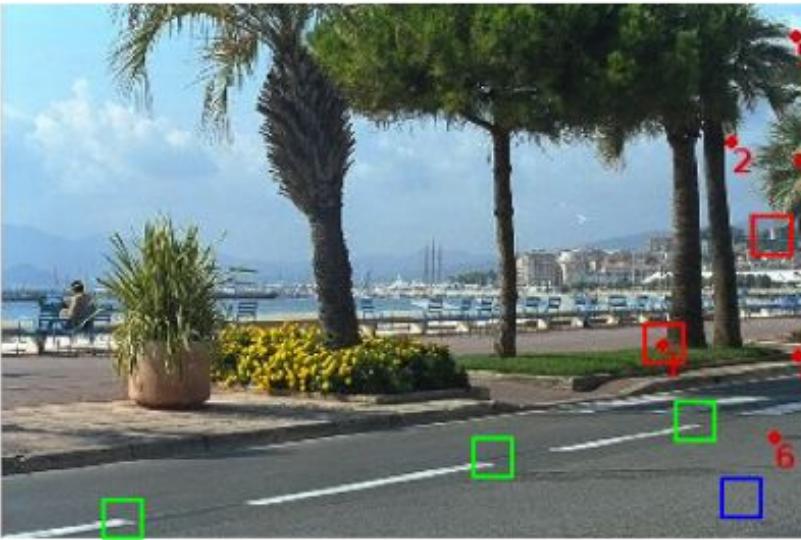
# Which features?

- Points



# Which features?

- distinctive/repeatable



# Outline

1. **Classical local features**
  - Reminder on **convolutions/derivatives**
  - **Feature detection:** How to extract informative features consistently?
  - **Feature description:** how to compare features?
  - Some more discussion of **SIFT and SURF**
2. Deep local features
3. Some deep 3D reconstruction

# Convolutions

- $f, g : \mathbb{R}^d$  or  $\mathbb{Z}^d \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  (or with values in  $\mathbb{C}$ )

- Ex. 2D continuous convolution

$$(f * g)(x, y) = \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} f(u, v) g(x-u, y-v) du dv = \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} f(x-u, y-v) g(u, v) du dv$$

- Ex. 2D discrete convolution

$$(f * g)(i, j) = \sum_{k=-\infty}^{+\infty} \sum_{l=-\infty}^{+\infty} f(i, j) g(i-k, j-l) = \sum_{k=-\infty}^{+\infty} \sum_{l=-\infty}^{+\infty} f(i-k, j-l) g(k, l)$$

... if integral/sum exists

- sufficient:  $f$  compactly supported,  $f$  integrable and  $g$  bounded...
- Efficient convolution in Fourier

# Blur-Convolution

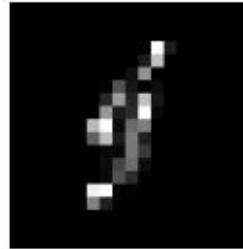
- Blurred image:

O



$$O = K * I$$

e.g. uniform motion blur



K



I

Levin, A., Weiss, Y.,  
Durand, F., & Freeman, W.  
T. (2009, June).  
Understanding and  
evaluating blind  
deconvolution algorithms.  
*CVPR 2009*

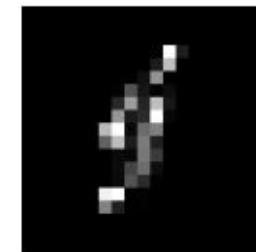
# Convolution

$$(K * I)(i, j) = \sum_{k,l} K(-k, -l)I(i + k, j + l)$$



$I$

$*$



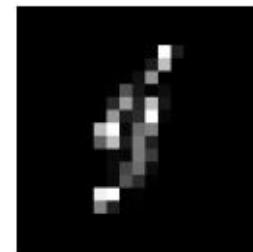
$K$

# Convolution

$$(K * I)(i, j) = \sum_{k,l} K(-k, -l)I(i + k, j + l)$$



\*



$I$

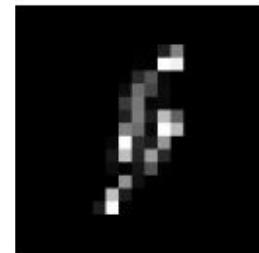
$K$

# Convolution

$$(K * I)(i, j) = \sum_{k,l} K(-k, -l)I(i + k, j + l)$$



\*



$I$

$K(-\cdot, -\cdot)$

# Convolution

$$(K * I)(i, j) = \sum_{k,l} K(-k, -l)I(i + k, j + l)$$



$$\begin{matrix} & (K * I)(i, j) \\ & \bullet \\ * & \bullet \\ & \bullet \end{matrix}$$
A small square kernel matrix  $K$  with a single white pixel in the center, representing a 3x3 receptive field.

Weighted average

$I$

$(K * I)(i, j)$

# Convolution

$$(K * I)(i, j) = \sum_{k,l} K(-k, -l)I(i + k, j + l)$$



$I$



$(K * I)(i, j)$

# Practice with linear filters



Original

0	0	0
0	1	0
0	0	0

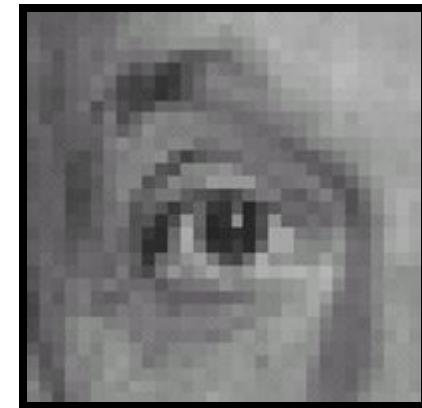
?

# Practice with linear filters



Original

0	0	0
0	1	0
0	0	0



Filtered  
(no change)

# Practice with linear filters



Original

0	0	0
0	0	1
0	0	0

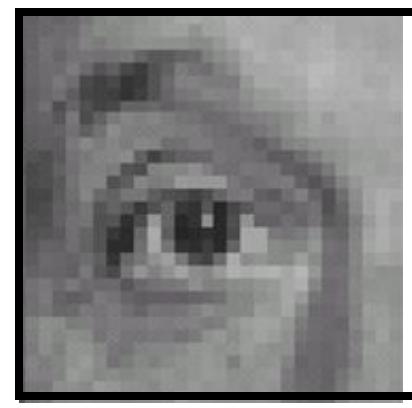
?

# Practice with linear filters



Original

0	0	0
0	0	1
0	0	0



Shifted *left*  
By 1 pixel

# Practice with linear filters



Original

$$\frac{1}{9} \begin{array}{|c|c|c|} \hline 1 & 1 & 1 \\ \hline 1 & 1 & 1 \\ \hline 1 & 1 & 1 \\ \hline \end{array}$$

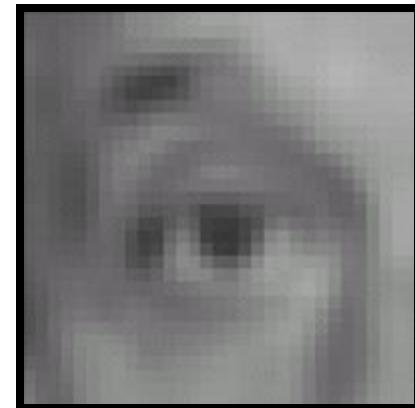
?

# Practice with linear filters



Original

$$\frac{1}{9} \begin{array}{|c|c|c|} \hline 1 & 1 & 1 \\ \hline 1 & 1 & 1 \\ \hline 1 & 1 & 1 \\ \hline \end{array}$$



Blur (with a  
box filter)

# Practice with linear filters



Original

0	0	0
0	2	0
0	0	0

-

$\frac{1}{9}$	1	1	1
1	1	1	1
1	1	1	1

?

(Note that filter sums to 1)

# Practice with linear filters

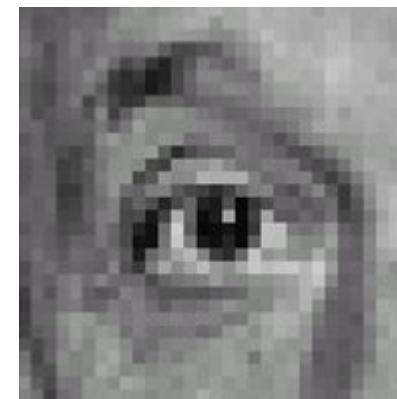


Original

0	0	0
0	2	0
0	0	0

-

$\frac{1}{9}$	1	1	1
1	1	1	1
1	1	1	1



## Sharpening filter

- Accentuates differences with local average

# Derivatives on images

For 2D function  $f(x,y)$ , the partial derivative is:

$$\frac{\partial f(x, y)}{\partial x} = \lim_{\varepsilon \rightarrow 0} \frac{f(x + \varepsilon, y) - f(x, y)}{\varepsilon}$$

For discrete data, we can approximate using finite differences:

$$\frac{\partial f(x, y)}{\partial x} \approx \frac{f(x + 1, y) - f(x, y)}{1}$$

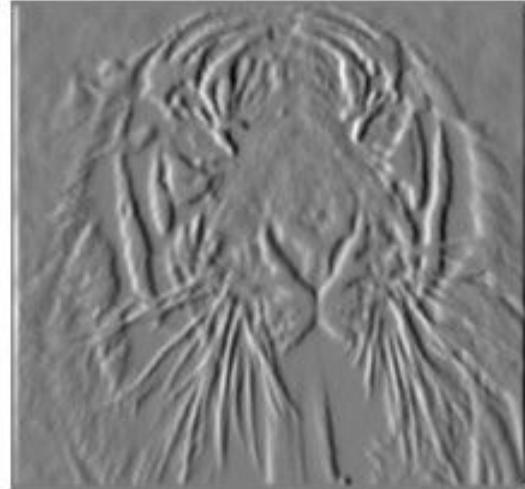
To implement the above as convolution, what would be the associated filter?

# Partial derivatives of an image



$$\frac{\partial f(x, y)}{\partial x}$$

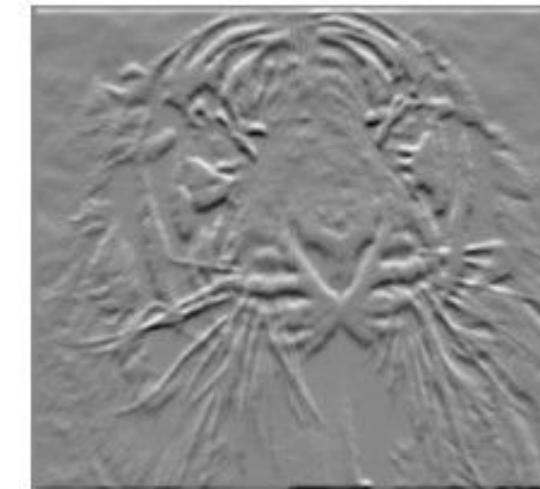
-1	1
----	---



$$\frac{\partial f(x, y)}{\partial y}$$

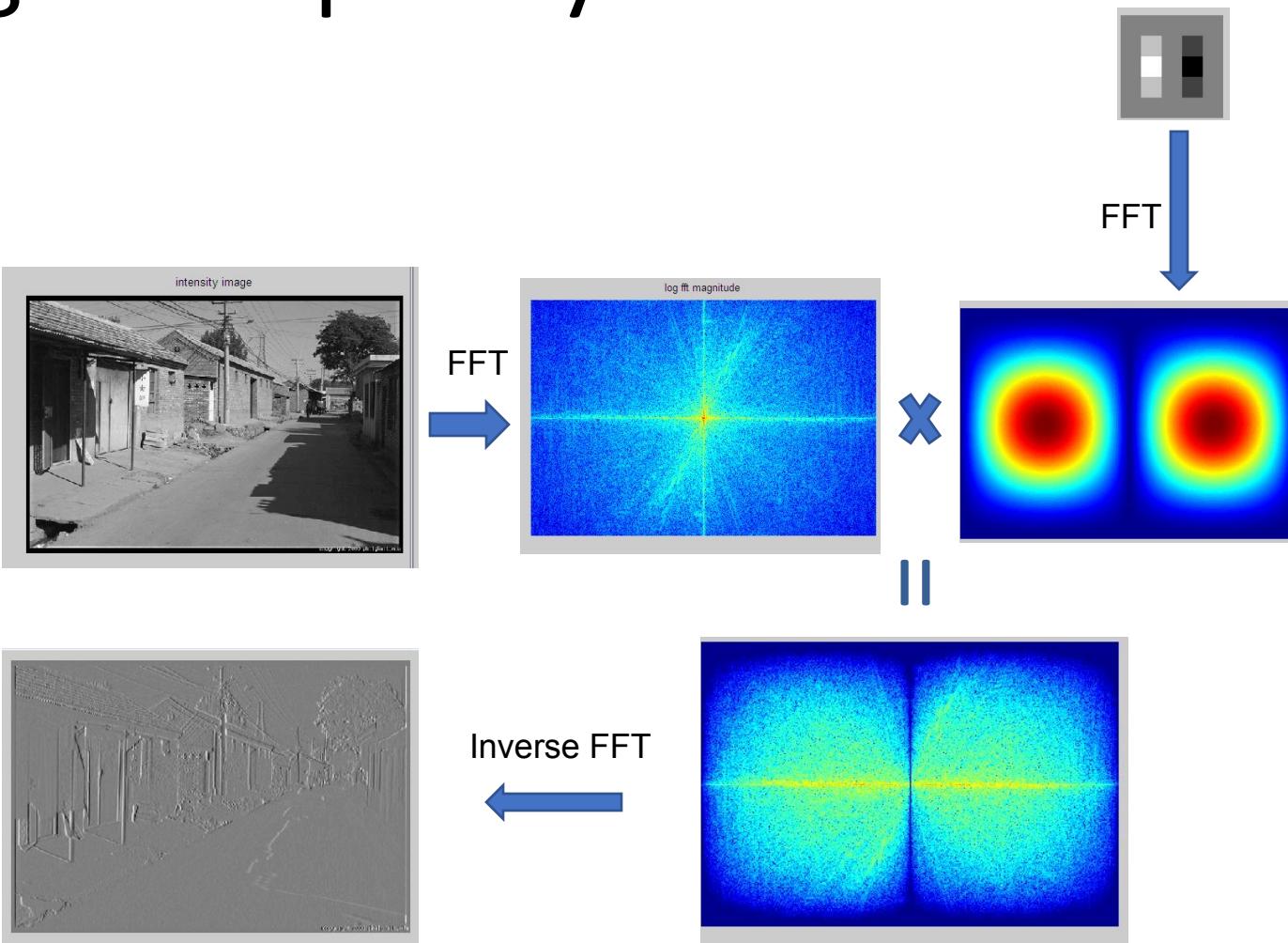
-1 or 1  
1 -1

-1	1
1	-1



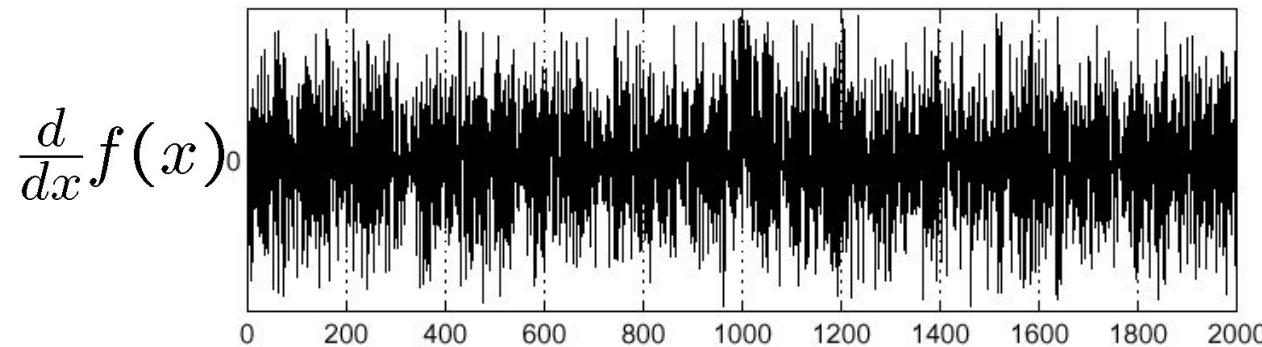
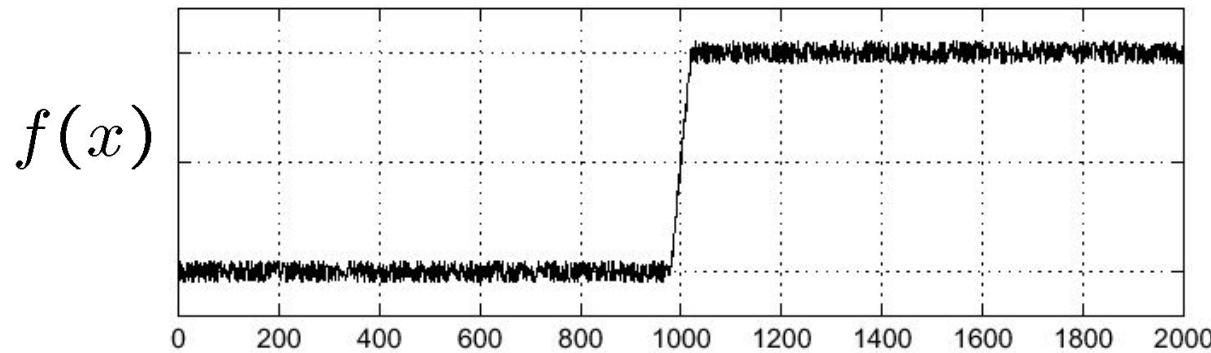
Which shows changes with respect to x?

# Filtering in frequency domain



# Effects of noise

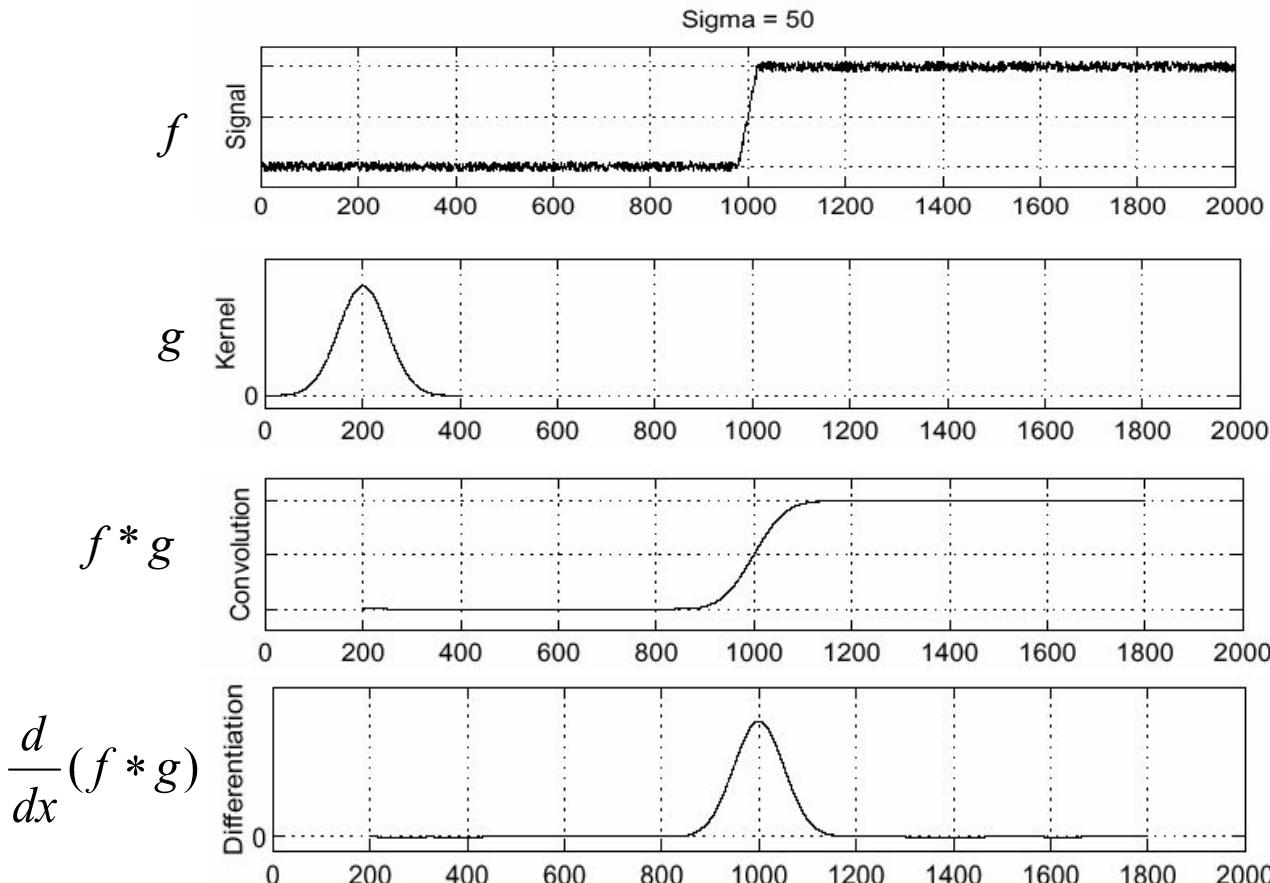
- Consider a single row or column of the image



Where is the edge?

Source: S. Seitz

# Solution: smooth first



- To find edges, look for peaks in

$$\frac{d}{dx}(f * g)$$

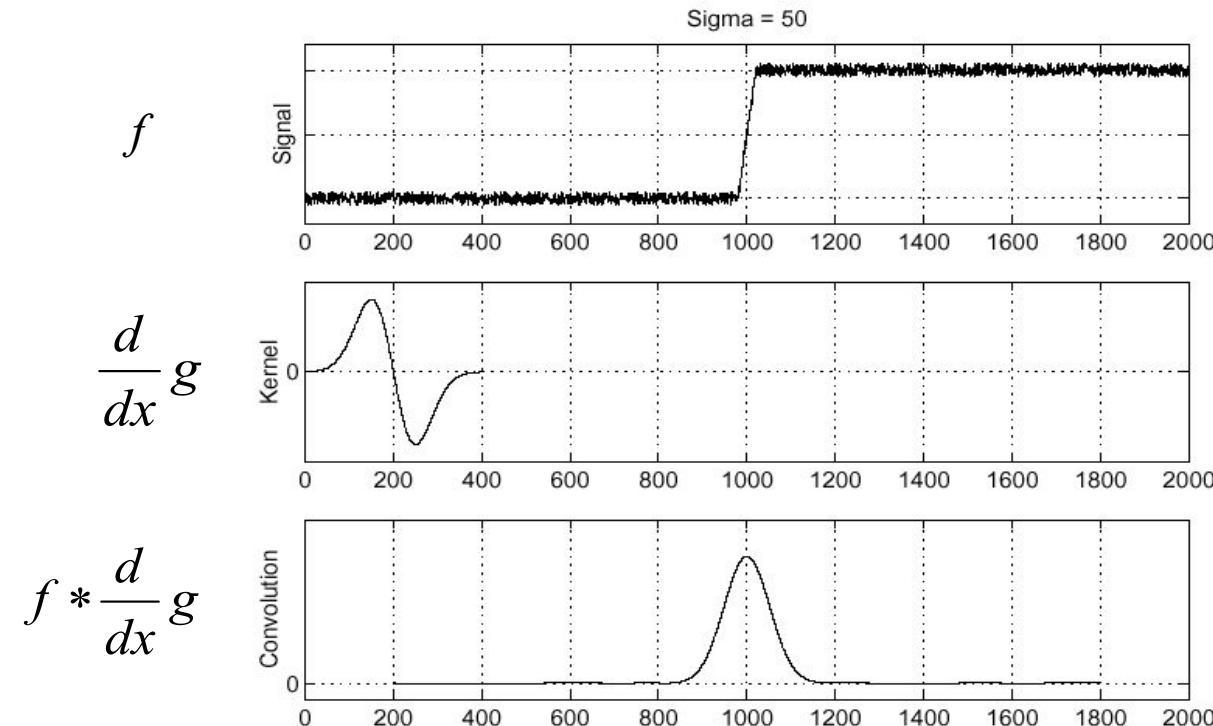
Source: S. Seitz

# Derivative theorem of convolution

- Differentiation is convolution, and convolution is associative:

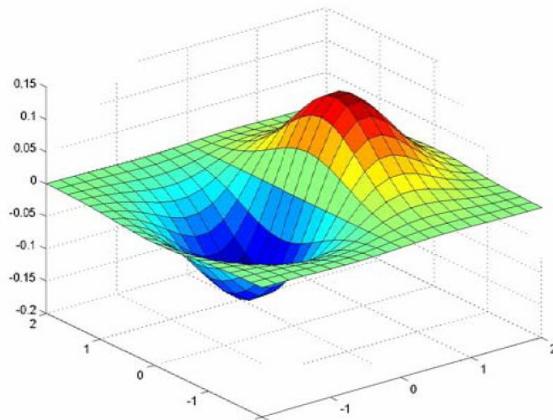
$$\frac{d}{dx}(f * g) = f * \frac{d}{dx}g$$

- This saves us one operation:

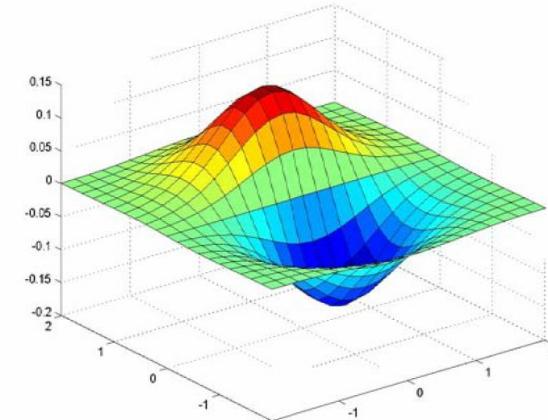


Source: S. Seitz

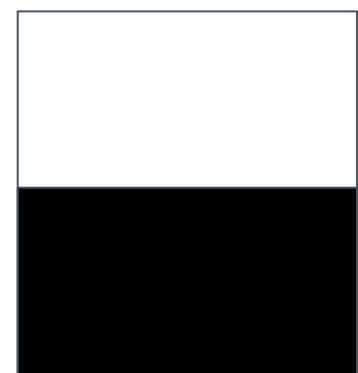
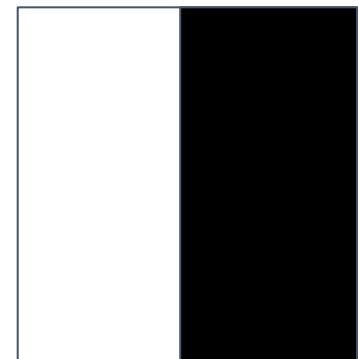
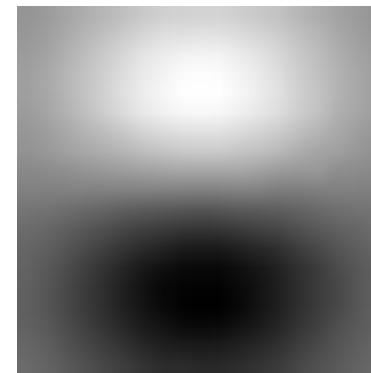
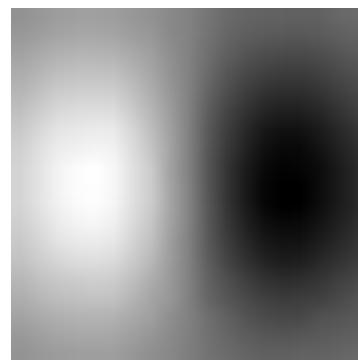
# Derivative of Gaussian filters



x-direction



y-direction



- Which one finds horizontal/vertical edges?

# Differential operators

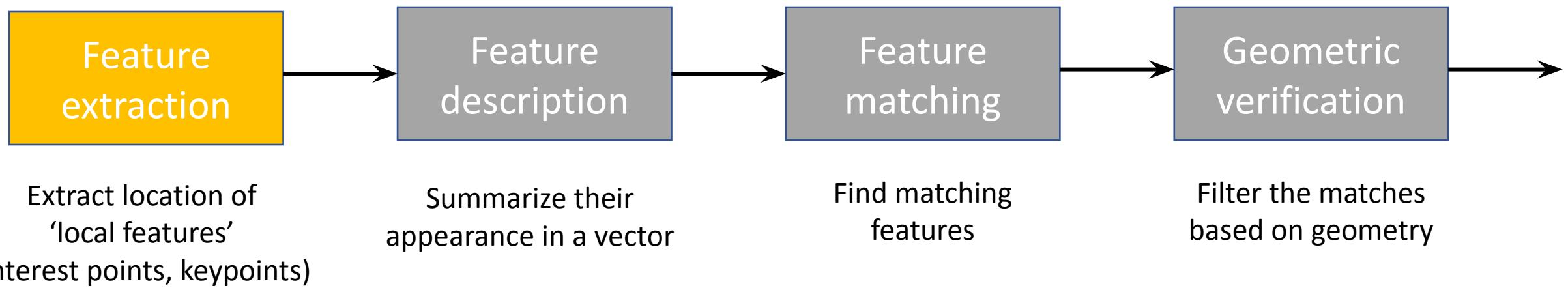
More generally, rather than trying to manually design a filter, one can apply an operator to the Gaussian kernel, discretize the result and convolve with the image.

- Noise reduction
- Scale selection
- Isotropic

# Outline

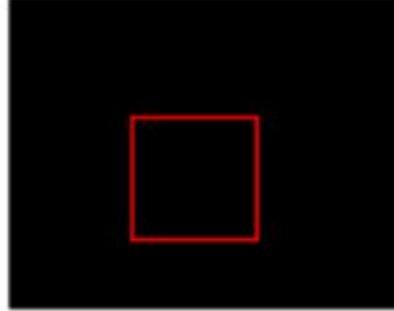
1. Classical local features
  - Reminder on convolutions
  - Feature detection: How to extract informative features consistently?  
**Harris corners, Laplacian/Hessian blobs, scale and orientation**
  - Feature description: how to compare features?
  - Some more discussion of SIFT and SURF
2. Deep local features
3. Some deep 3D reconstruction

# Local features and correspondences pipeline for 3D reconstruction

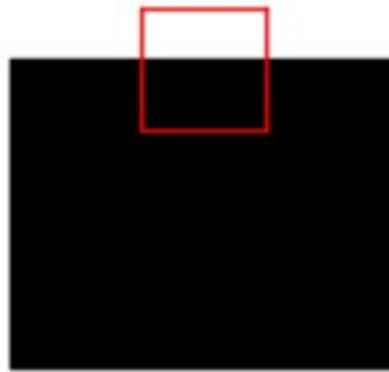


# Auto-correlation for corner detection (Moravec 1980)

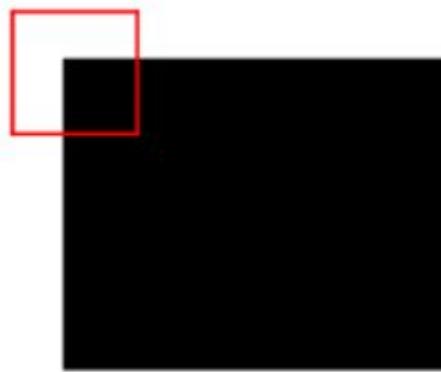
- Corner?



A. Interior Region  
Little intensity variation  
in any direction



B. Edge  
Little intensity variation  
along edge, large  
variation perpendicular  
to edge



C. Edge  
Large intensity variation  
in all directions



D. Edge  
Large intensity variation  
in all directions

# Harris Corner

Idea: compare a patch P and a patch shifted by  $(\Delta x, \Delta y)$

$$S(\Delta_x, \Delta_y) = \sum_{x, y \in P} (I(x + \Delta_x, y + \Delta_y) - I(x, y))^2$$

-> if the difference is large for all  $(\Delta x, \Delta y)$  the patch is distinctive.

# Harris Corner

Idea: compare a patch  $P$  and a patch shifted by  $(\Delta x, \Delta y)$

$$S(\Delta_x, \Delta_y) = \sum_{x,y \in P} (I(x + \Delta_x, y + \Delta_y) - I(x, y))^2$$

Use Taylor extension of  $I$  (Harris and Stephen 1988):

$$I(x + \Delta_x, y + \Delta_y) \simeq I(x, y) + I_x(x, y)\Delta_x + I_y(x, y)\Delta_y$$

$$S(\Delta_x, \Delta_y) \simeq \sum_{x,y \in P} \begin{bmatrix} \Delta_x & \Delta_y \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} I_x^2 & I_y I_x \\ I_x I_y & I_y^2 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \Delta_x \\ \Delta_y \end{bmatrix}$$

# Harris Corner

- $S$  large in all direction  $\Leftrightarrow$  condition on

$$A = \sum_{x,y \in P} \begin{bmatrix} I_x^2 & I_y I_x \\ I_x I_y & I_y^2 \end{bmatrix}$$

# Spectral theorem

We can diagonalize the any symmetric positively defined matrix  $M$  in an orthonormal basis  $(e_1, \dots, e_m)$  i.e. write

$$M = \sum_{i=1}^m \lambda_i e_i e_i^T \quad Me_i = \lambda_i e_i$$

$\lambda_1 \geq \dots \geq \lambda_m \geq 0$  are the eigenvalues

- If  $u = \sum_{i=1}^m u_i e_i$

$$\min_i \lambda_i \|u\|^2 \leq u^T M u = \sum_{i=1}^m \lambda_i u_i^2 \leq \max_i \lambda_i \|u\|^2$$

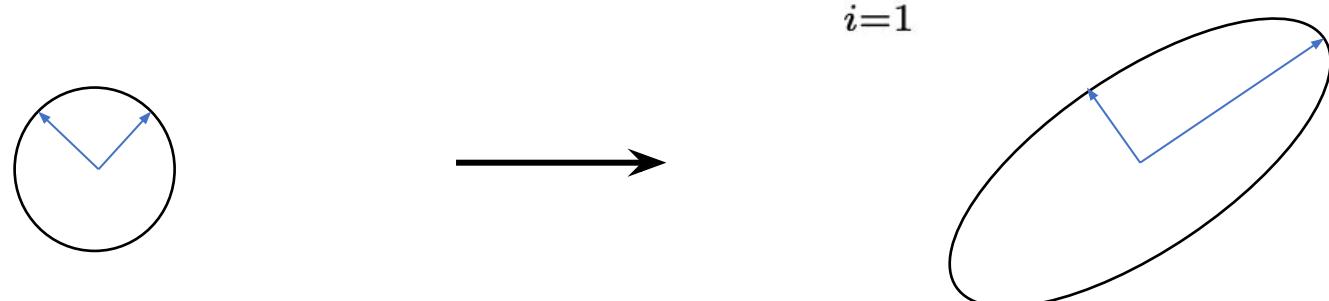
# Spectral theorem

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i.e. write

$$M = \sum_{i=1}^m \lambda_i e_i e_i^T \quad Me_i = \lambda_i e_i$$

$\lambda_1 \geq \dots \geq \lambda_m \geq 0$  are the eigenvalues

Interpretation: level-sets of  $u^T M u = \sum_{i=1}^m \lambda_i u_i^2$



# Harris Corner

- $S$  large in all direction  $\Leftrightarrow$  the two eigenvalues of  $A = \sum_{x,y \in P} \begin{bmatrix} I_x^2 & I_y I_x \\ I_x I_y & I_y^2 \end{bmatrix}$  are large

# Harris Corner

- $S$  large in all direction  $\Leftrightarrow$  the two eigenvalues of  $A = \sum_{x,y \in P} \begin{bmatrix} I_x^2 & I_y I_x \\ I_x I_y & I_y^2 \end{bmatrix}$  are large

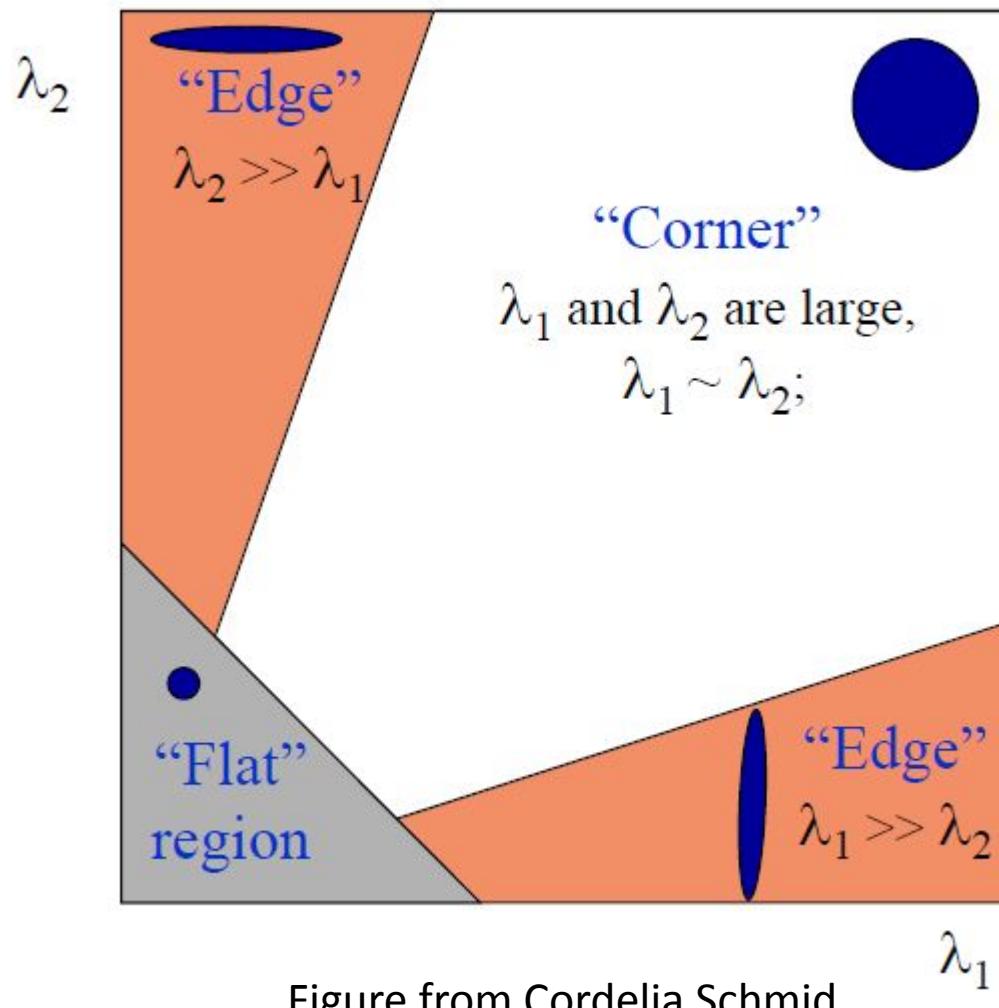
- Harris and Stephens suggest to use

$$M_c = \lambda_1 \lambda_2 - \kappa (\lambda_1 + \lambda_2)^2 = \det(A) - \kappa \operatorname{trace}^2(A)$$

the *auto-correlation* or *second moment* matrix

w Gaussian  $\rightarrow$  invariant to in plane rotation

# Harris Corner



# Harris Corner: algo

- Compute images derivatives  $I_x(\mathbf{x}_q)$  and  $I_y(\mathbf{x}_q)$  for each pixel  $q$  of  $I$ 
  - compute smooth derivation operators  $G_x$  and  $G_y$
  - compute “image derivatives”  $I_x$  and  $I_y$ : convolve  $I$  with masks  $G_x$  and  $G_y$
- Compute “product images”  $I_x^2, II, I_y^2$  (not matrix products!)
  - then add extra smoothing using an “integration” Gaussian (e.g.,  $\sigma_i = 2$ )  
(again using two 1D-convolutions rather than one 2D-convolution)
- Consider auto-correlation matrix  $A = [I_x^2 \; II; II \; I_y^2]$ 
  - compute corner response (or strength) for each  $q$
  - response above threshold and local maximum (8 neighbors) → detection
  - possibly: only keep locally significant responses (see ANMS below)

# Blob detection

# Blob detection: Hessian

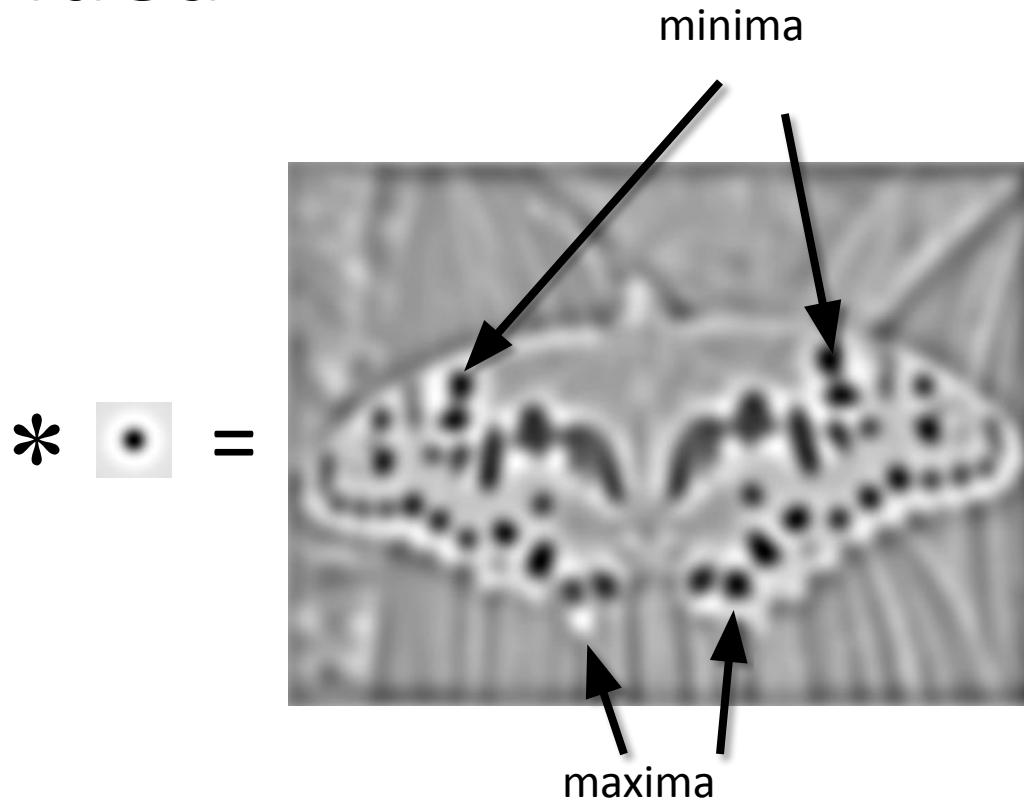
Idea: do a quadratic approximation of the image

Use the Hessian: its eigen-values/vector give principal curvatures of the image

$$H = \sum_{x,y \in P} \begin{bmatrix} I_{x,x} & I_{x,y} \\ I_{x,y} & I_{y,y} \end{bmatrix}$$

$$I(x + \Delta_x, y + \Delta_y) \simeq L(x, y) + \nabla L(x, y)^\top \begin{bmatrix} \Delta_x \\ \Delta_y \end{bmatrix} + [\Delta_x \quad \Delta_y] H(x, y) \begin{bmatrix} \Delta_x \\ \Delta_y \end{bmatrix}$$

# Blob detection: LoG idea



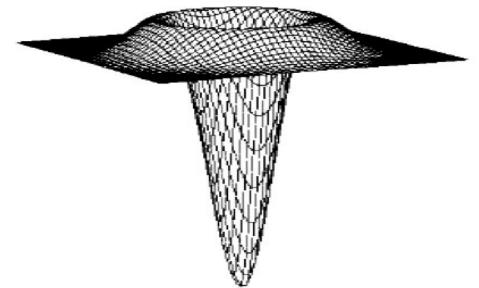
- Find maxima *and minima* of blob filter response in space *and scale*

# Blob detection: LoG

- Idea: convolve image with Laplacian of Gaussian and look for extrema

$$\Delta f = \nabla^2 f = \nabla \cdot \nabla f = \sum_{i=1}^n \frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial x_i^2} = \text{tr}(H(f))$$

$$\Delta G(x, y; \sigma) = -\frac{1}{\pi\sigma^4} \left[ 1 - \frac{x^2 + y^2}{2\sigma^2} \right] e^{-\frac{x^2+y^2}{2\sigma^2}}$$

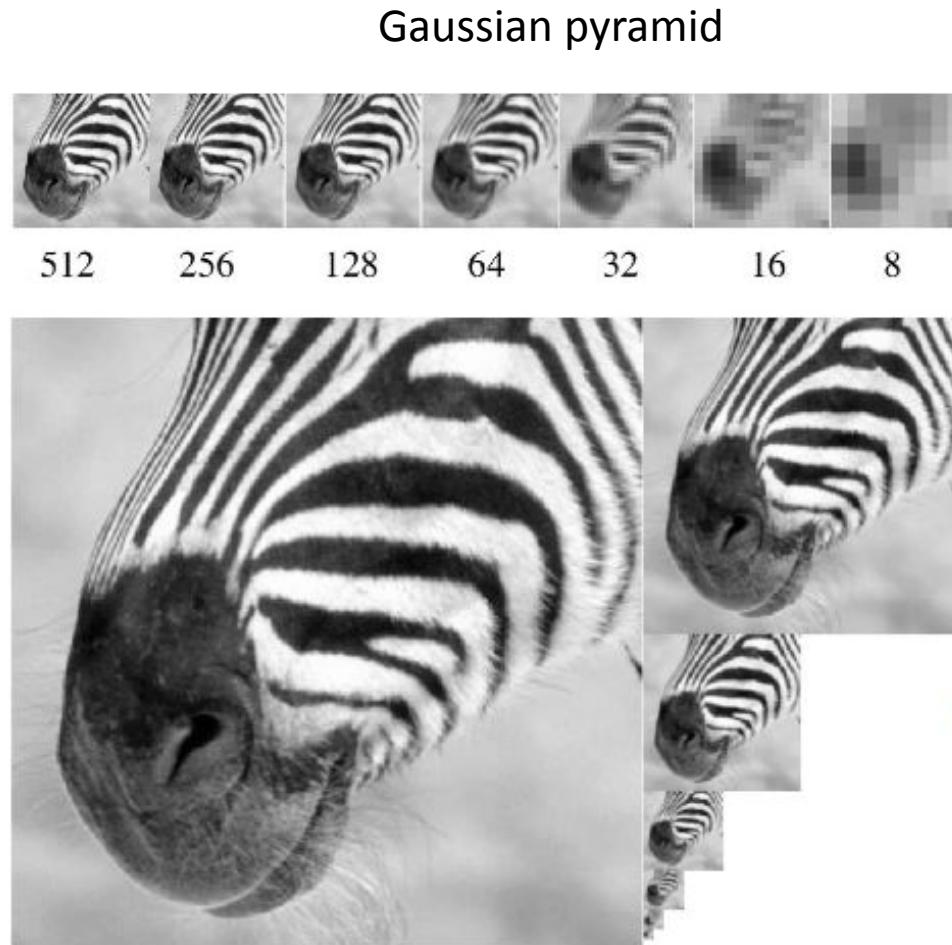


- Laplacian of Gaussian (LoG) detector score:

$$(\Delta G) * I = \Delta(G * I) = \Delta L$$

with  $L(x, y; \sigma) = G(x, y; \sigma) * I(x, y)$

# Multi-scale



- Convolution with Gaussian of varying  $\sigma$

$$G(x, y; \sigma) = \frac{1}{2\pi\sigma^2} e^{-\frac{x^2+y^2}{2\sigma^2}}$$

- Scale-space representation

$$L(x, y; \sigma) = G(x, y; \sigma) * I(x, y)$$

- Scale pyramid

Space:  $x, y$  dimensions (location)  
Scale-space:  $\sigma$  dimension

# Scale-space



$\sigma = 0$  (original image)



$\sigma = 1$



$\sigma = 4$



$\sigma = 16$



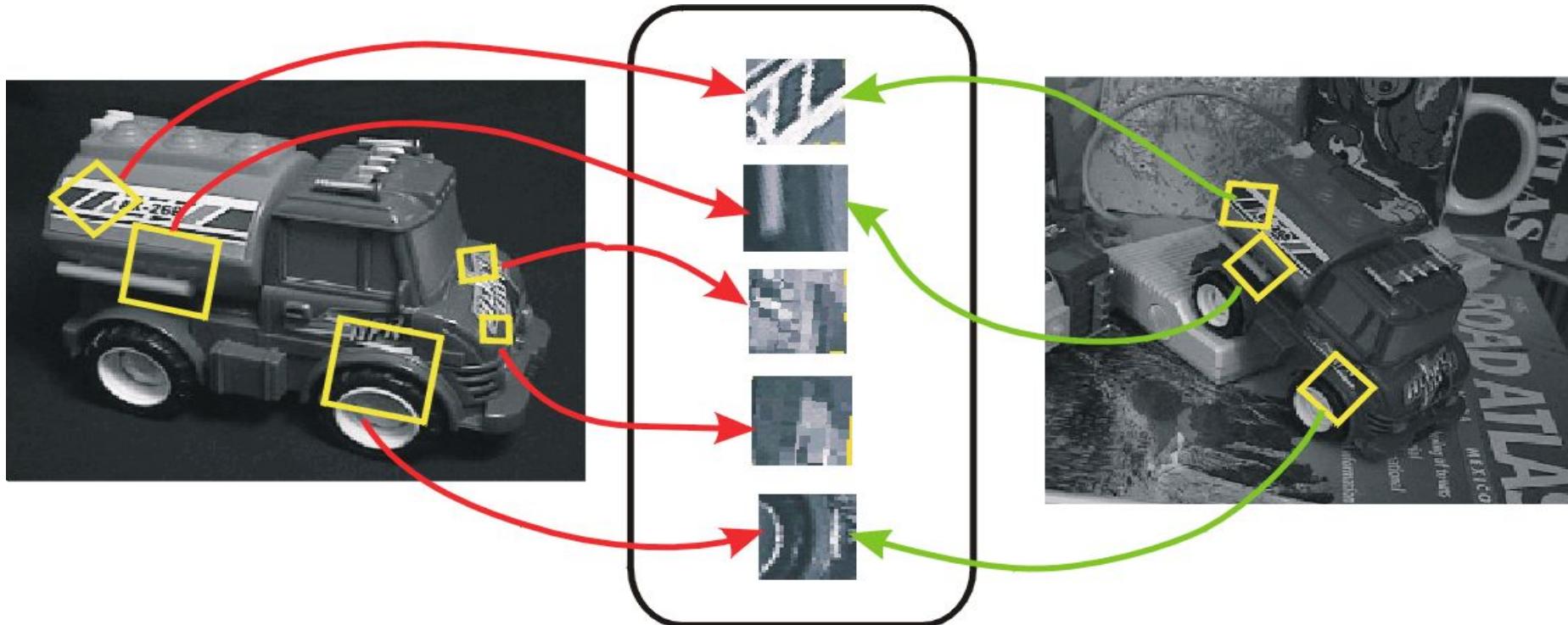
$\sigma = 64$



$\sigma = 256$

Be carefull when comparing detector responses at different scales, you might need a scaling factor!  
e.g. scale normalized LoG  $\nabla^2_{\text{norm}} G = \sigma^2 \nabla^2 G$

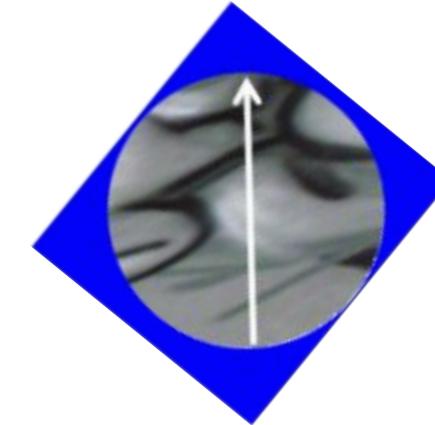
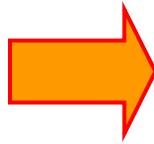
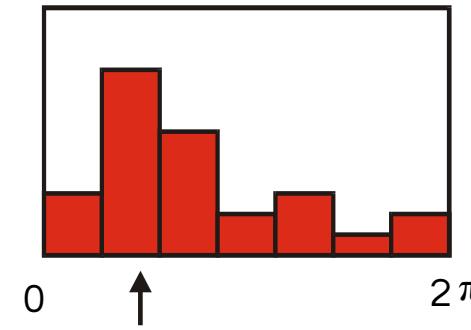
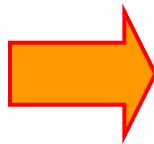
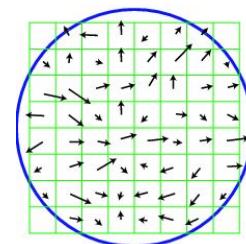
# Covariance / Invariance



- We want the description to be *invariant*:  
 $\text{features}(\text{transform}(\text{image})) = \text{features}(\text{image})$
- A solution is to have a *covariant* detection:  
 $\text{det}(\text{transform}(\text{image})) = \text{transform}(\text{det}(\text{image}))$

# Rotation invariance/covariance

- example: use the dominant gradient direction to rotate the image



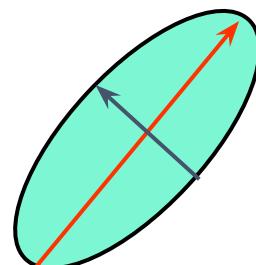
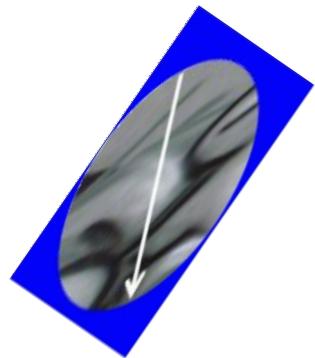
# Affine invariance/covariance

- example: use the eigen-decomposition of the second moment matrix

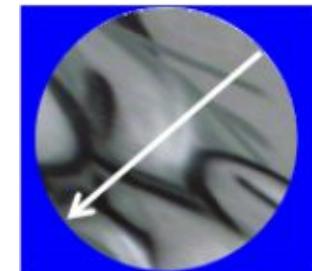
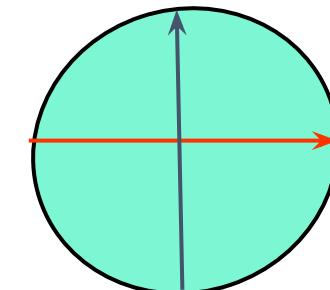
$$M = \begin{pmatrix} L_x^2 & L_x L_y \\ L_x L_y & L_y^2 \end{pmatrix}$$

- Give direction of maximum and minimum variation of the image and a characteristic scale

-> Normalize the image



$$x' \rightarrow M^{\frac{1}{2}} x$$



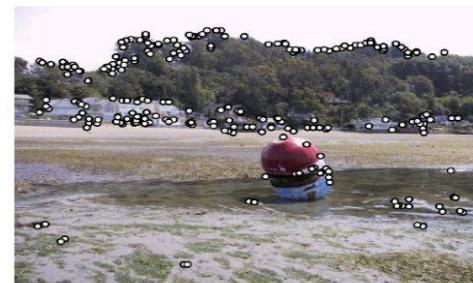
# Evaluation

- The main criteria for a detector is repeatability, i.e. to detect the same features in two different views of the same scene.
- Another criteria is the number of features detected/image
- "Same" can mean different things depending on the feature type (location, scale, orientation...)

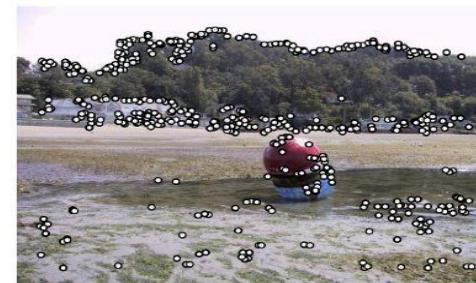
# Non-Max suppression

# Non-Maximum Suppression

- Problem:
  - maximality in  $3 \times 3$  neighborhood
    - uneven distribution  
(dense where high contrast)
    - poor robustness  
(sensitive to noise)



(a) Strongest 250

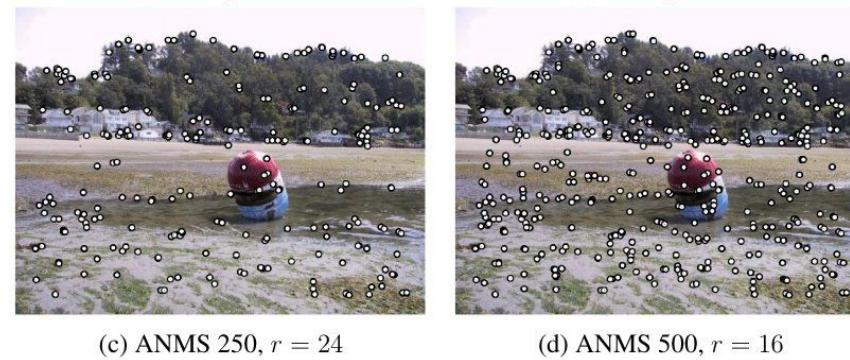
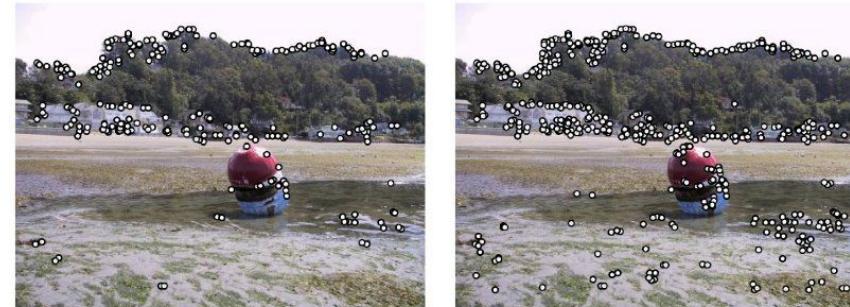


(b) Strongest 500

- Solution 1 (NMS):
  - check in larger region around  $p$  (e.g., disk of given radius  $r$ ):  
check maximality w.r.t. all points  $q$  such that  $\| \mathbf{x}_p - \mathbf{x}_q \| \leq r$
  - check almost largest response (e.g., within 10%):  
$$\forall q \quad \| \mathbf{x}_p - \mathbf{x}_q \| \leq r \Rightarrow c f(\mathbf{x}_q) \leq f(\mathbf{x}_p) \quad [\text{e.g., } c = 0.9]$$

# Adaptive non-maximal suppression (ANMS)

- Problem with NMS
  - Distribution still uneven
  - Need to tune  $r$
- Solution 2: ANMS
  - Compute a radius for each point
  - Sort by radius



# ANMS : algo

Sort  $\text{DetectedPoints}$  by decreasing response

$p_1 \leftarrow$  point with highest response

$r_{p_1} \leftarrow +\infty$

$\text{ProcessedPoints} \leftarrow \{p_1\}$ , and remove  $p_1$  from  $\text{DetectedPoints}$

For each detection  $p \in \text{DetectedPoints}$ , in decreasing strength order

$r_p \leftarrow \min_{q \in \text{ProcessedPoints}} \| \mathbf{x}_p - \mathbf{x}_q \|$  such that  $f(\mathbf{x}_p) < c f(\mathbf{x}_q)$

[as  $f(\mathbf{x}_p) > c f(\mathbf{x}_q)$  guaranteed for  $q \notin \text{ProcessedPoints}$ ]

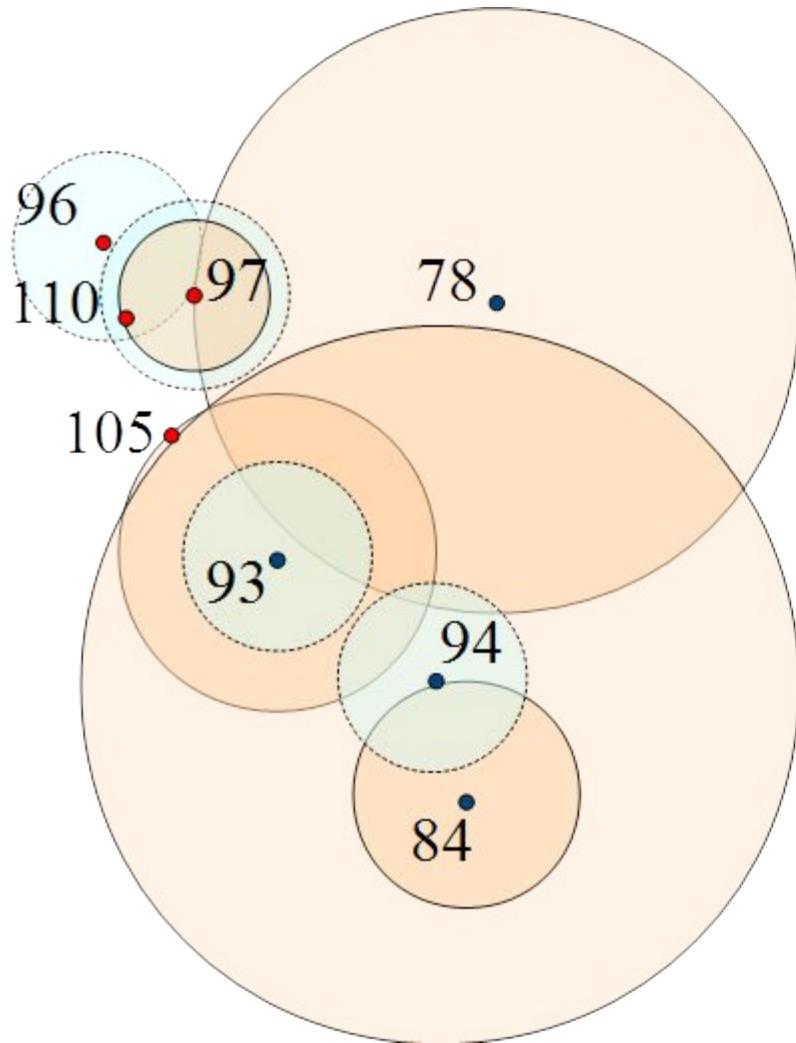
add  $p$  to  $\text{ProcessedPoints}$

Return  $n$  first points  $p$  with the highest suppression radius  $r_p$

// Still quadratic in number of points. (But there are subquadratic algorithms.)

// Compute, store and compare  $r^2$  rather than  $r$  to avoid computing a square root for  $r = \| \mathbf{x}_p - \mathbf{x}_q \|$

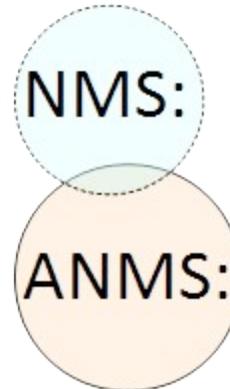
# ANMS : example



4 strongest points:

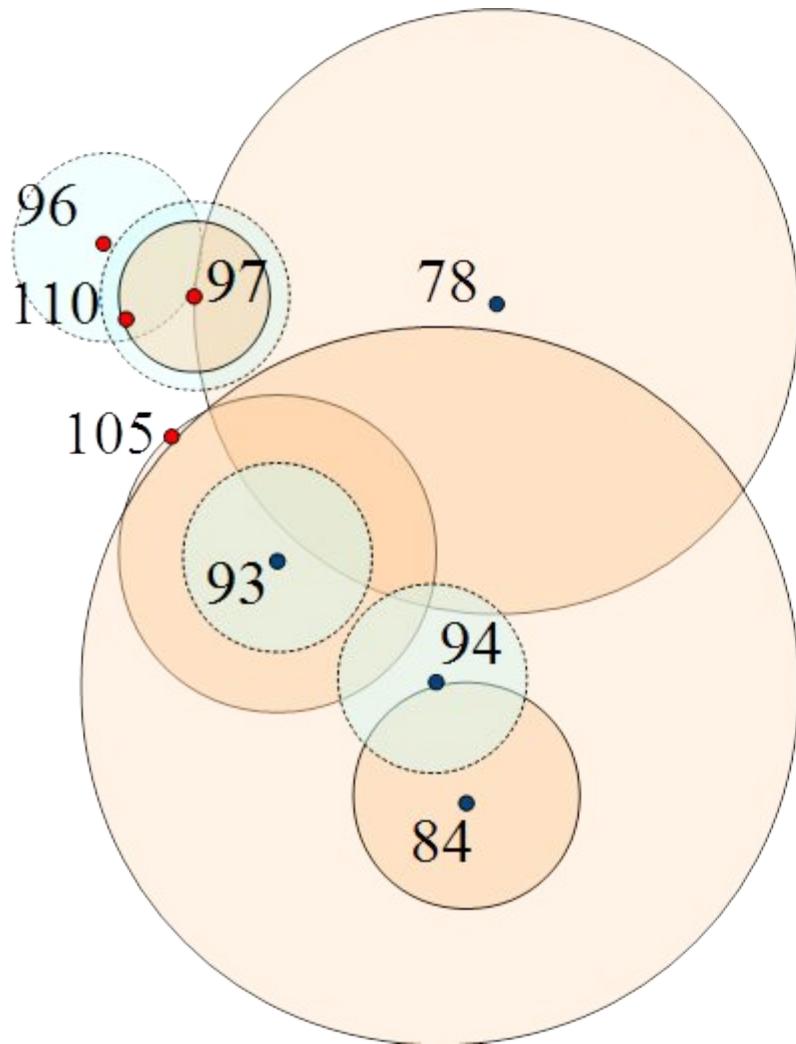


4 strongest points with NMS:



4 strongest points with ANMS:

# ANMS : example

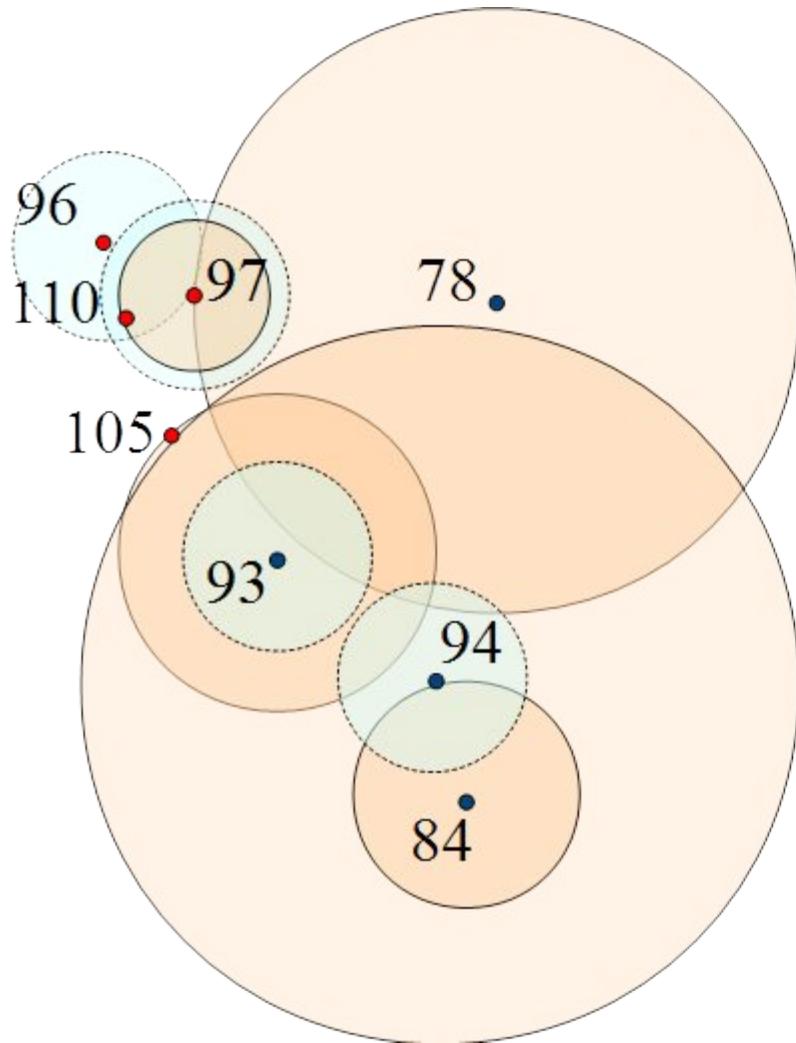


4 strongest points:  
110, 105, 97, 96

4 strongest points with NMS:

4 strongest points with ANMS:

# ANMS : example



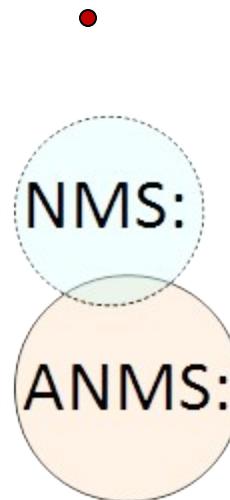
4 strongest points:

110, 105, 97, 96

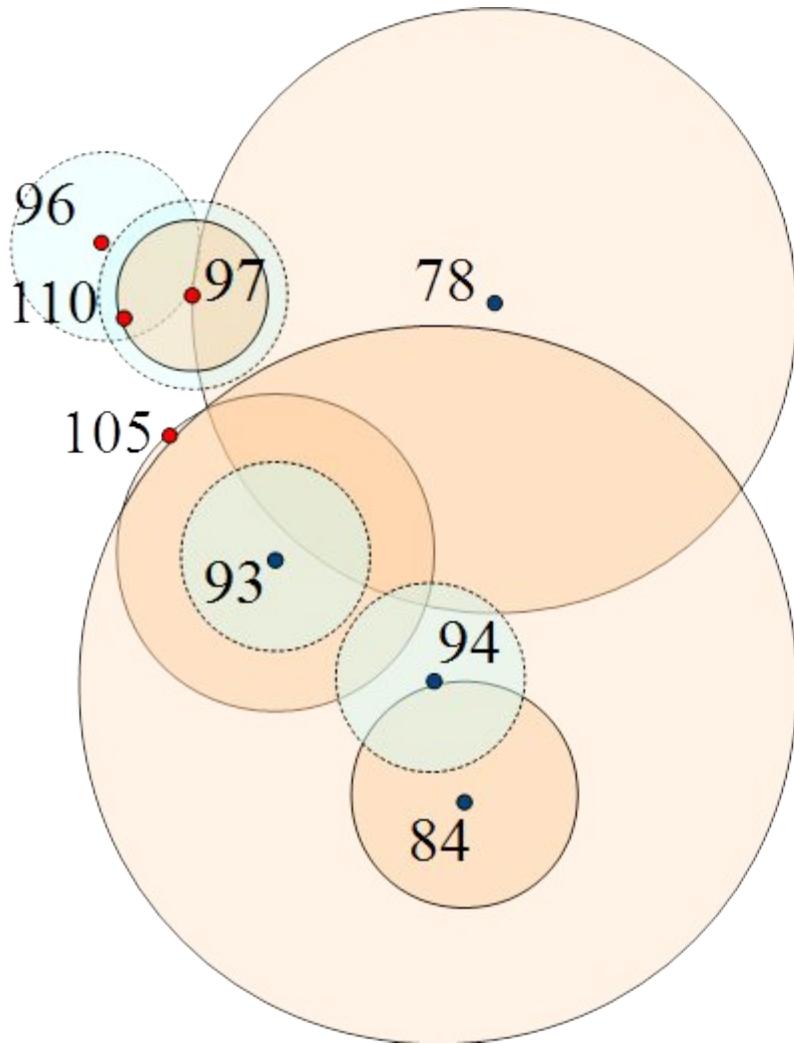
4 strongest points with NMS:

110, 105, 94, 93

4 strongest points with ANMS:



# ANMS : example



4 strongest points:

110, 105, 97, 96

4 strongest points with NMS:

110, 105, 94, 93

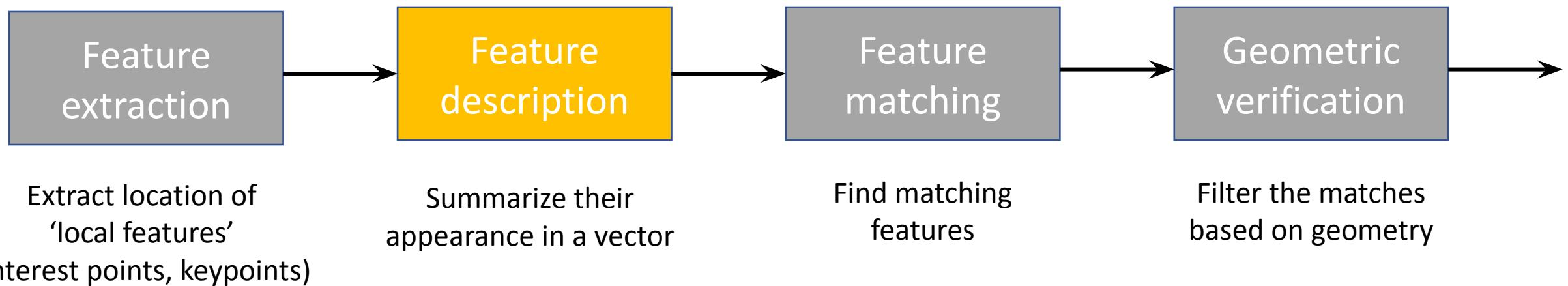
4 strongest points with ANMS:

110, 105, 94, 78

# Outline

1. Classical local features
  - Reminder on convolutions
  - Feature detection: How to extract informative features consistently?
  - Feature description: how to compare features?  
**ShapeContext/HOG/BRIEF**
  - Some more discussion of SIFT and SURF
2. Deep local features
3. Some deep 3D reconstruction

# Local features and correspondences pipeline for 3D reconstruction



# Feature descriptors

- How to compare patches?
  - Directly compare pixels
  - Look at a more meaningful embedding (descriptor)
- Which distance/similarity?

# Feature descriptors

Many type of descriptors

- Pixel values
- Based on local image statistics (local derivatives, answer to filters...)
- Based on local histograms
- Binary comparisons
- CNN-based
- ...

# Comparing patches using pixel values

Two square patches  $P_0$  and  $P_1$  of size  $W$

- L2 distance:

$$\sum_{i,j} (P_0(i,j) - P_1(i,j))^2 = \sum_{i,j} (P_0(i,j)^2 + P_1(i,j)^2) - 2 \sum_{i,j} P_0(i,j).P_1(i,j)$$

Sensitive to illumination changes – average luminosity of the patch

# Comparing patches using pixel values

Two square patches  $P_0$  and  $P_1$  of size  $w$

- Zero-mean Normalized Cross-correlation (ZNCC)

$$\frac{1}{w} \sum_{i,j} \frac{P_0(i,j) - \mu_0}{\sigma_0} \cdot \frac{P_1(i,j) - \mu_1}{\sigma_1}$$

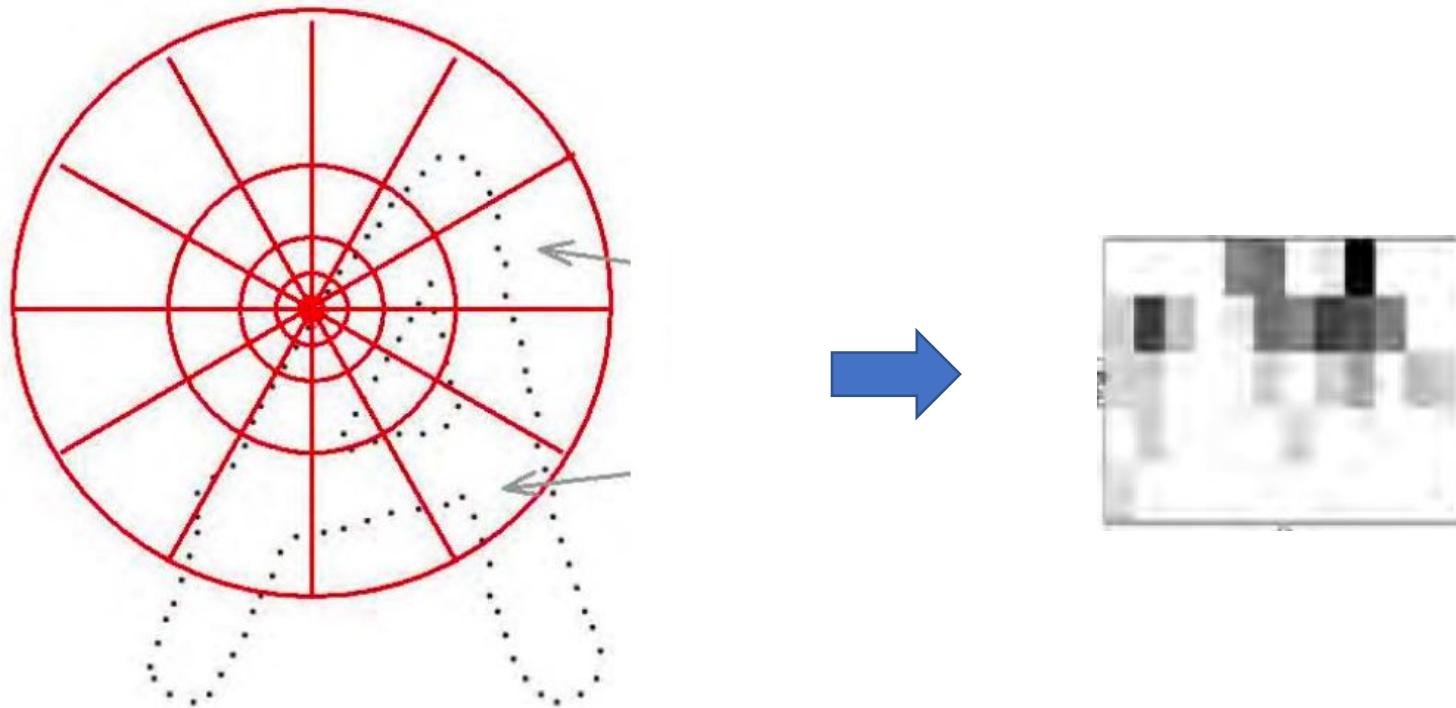
$$\mu_k = \frac{1}{w} \sum_{i,j} P_k(i,j) \quad \sigma_k^2 = \frac{1}{w} \sum_{i,j} (P_k(i,j) - \mu_k)^2$$

Invariant to affine illumination changes, robust to noise.

-> Problem: still limited robustness

# Shape context

1. Detect edges ; 2. Sample points ; 3. Build histogram

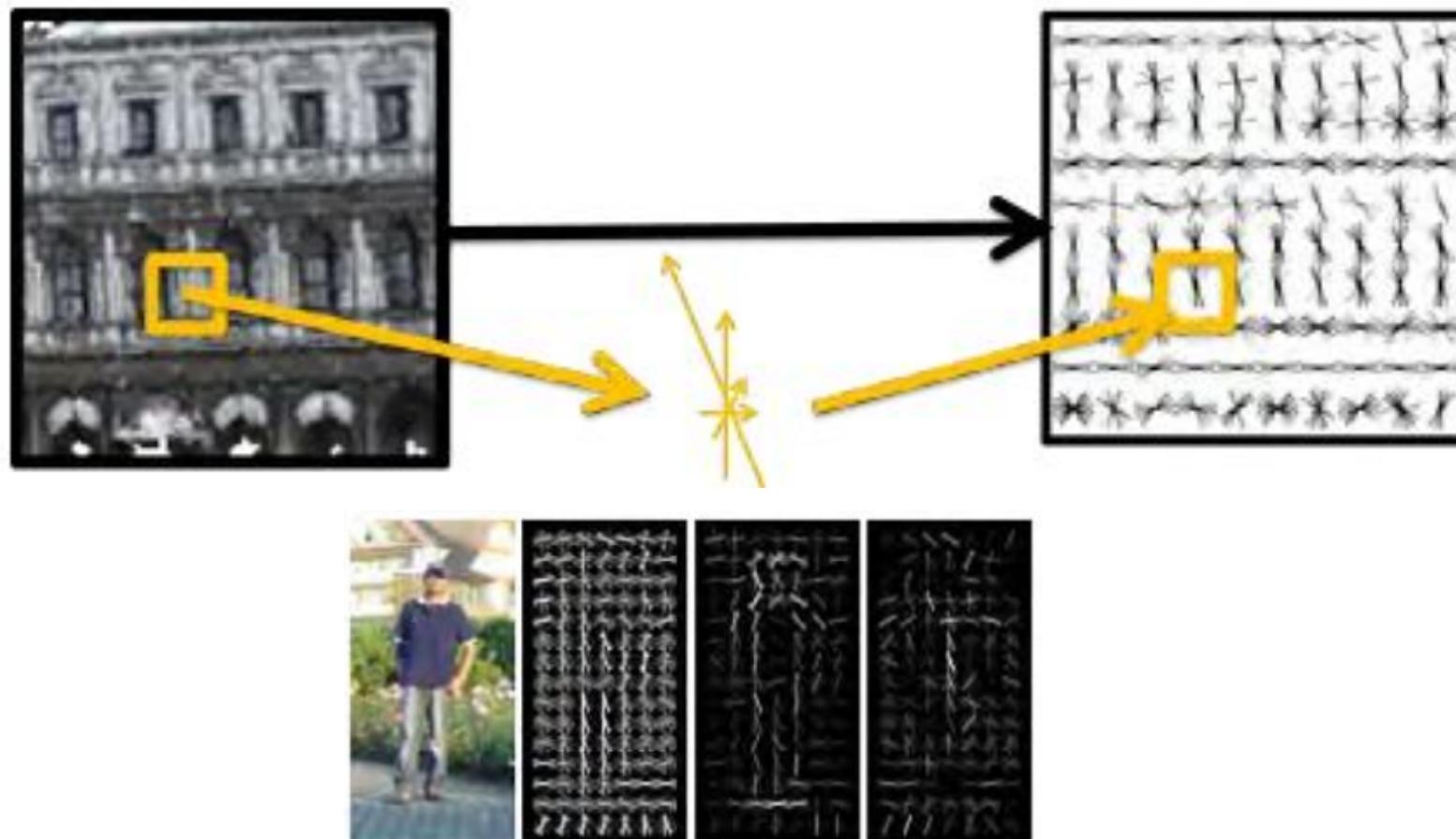


Belongie, S., Malik, J., & Puzicha, J.

Shape matching and object recognition using shape contexts. *PAMI* 2002

# Histograms of Oriented Gradients

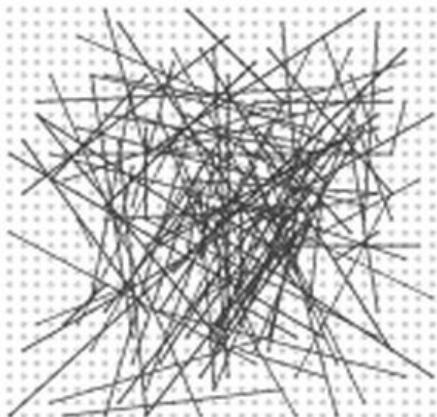
Same idea as SIFT (coming in a few slides): histogram of gradients orientations



Dalal, N., & Triggs, B. Histograms of oriented gradients for human detection. *CVPR 2005*.

# BRIEF

Using binary comparisons between random locations



$$\tau(\mathbf{p}; \mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}) := \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } \mathbf{p}(\mathbf{x}) < \mathbf{p}(\mathbf{y}) \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

$$f_{n_d}(\mathbf{p}) := \sum_{1 \leq i \leq n_d} 2^{i-1} \tau(\mathbf{p}; \mathbf{x}_i, \mathbf{y}_i)$$

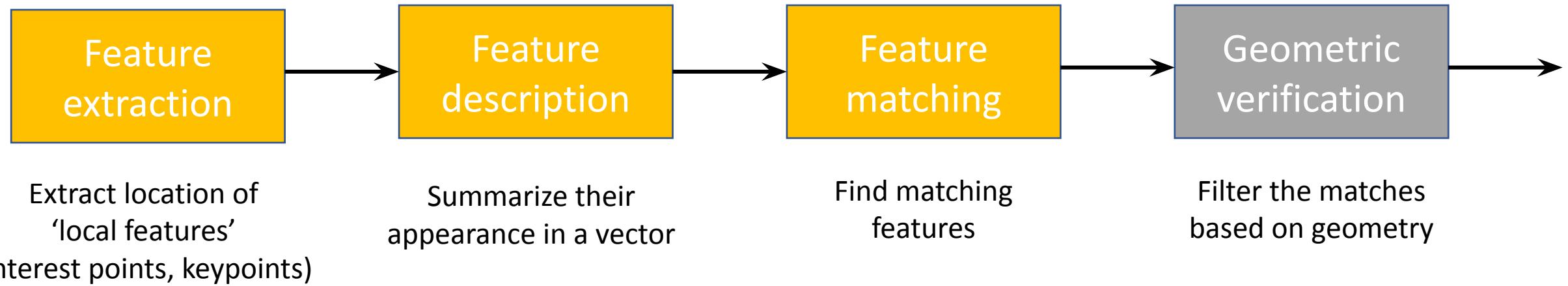
Calonder, M., Lepetit, V., Strecha, C., & Fua, P. Brief: Binary robust independent elementary features. *ECCV 2010*

See also Local Binary Patterns (LBP)

# Outline

1. Classical local features
  - Reminder on convolutions
  - Feature detection: How to extract informative features consistently?
  - Feature description: how to compare features?
  - **Some more discussion of SIFT and SURF**
2. Deep local features
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# Local features and correspondences pipeline for 3D reconstruction



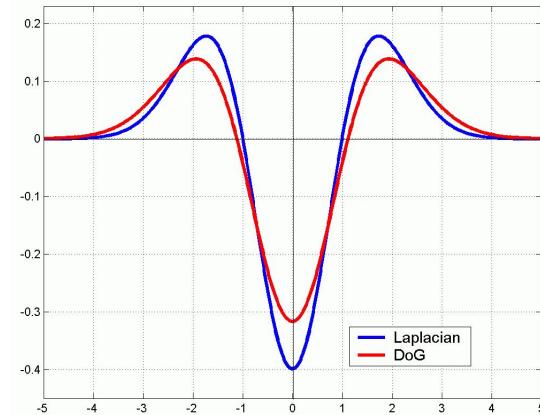
# SIFT

- Scale Invariant Feature Transform,  
David Lowe, ICCV 1999, IJCV2004
- Detector + descriptor
- Optimized for speed and precision, designed using performance over synthetic transformations (rotation, scaling, affine stretch, change in brightness and contrast, and addition of image noise)
- Still the main baseline for sparse features, even if deep methods now lead to better detectors/descriptors

# SIFT Detector

- Approximating LoG with DoG

$$\partial G / \partial \sigma = \sigma \nabla^2 G$$



- Localization in the 3D scale space beyond discretization

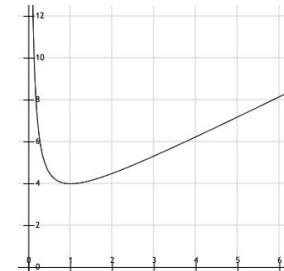
$$\tilde{D}(\mathbf{x}) = D + \frac{\partial D^T}{\partial \mathbf{x}} \mathbf{x} + \frac{1}{2} \mathbf{x}^T \frac{\partial^2 D}{\partial \mathbf{x}^2} \mathbf{x}$$

$$\frac{\partial \tilde{D}}{\partial \mathbf{x}}(\hat{\mathbf{x}}) = 0 \Leftrightarrow \hat{\mathbf{x}} = -\frac{\partial^2 D^{-1}}{\partial \mathbf{x}^2} \frac{\partial D}{\partial \mathbf{x}}$$

- Rejection of unstable keypoints with low contrast / edges

$$\frac{\text{trace}(\mathbf{H})^2}{\det(\mathbf{H})} = \frac{(\lambda_0 + \lambda_1)^2}{\lambda_0 \lambda_1} = \frac{(r+1)^2}{r} \quad r = \lambda_1 / \lambda_0$$

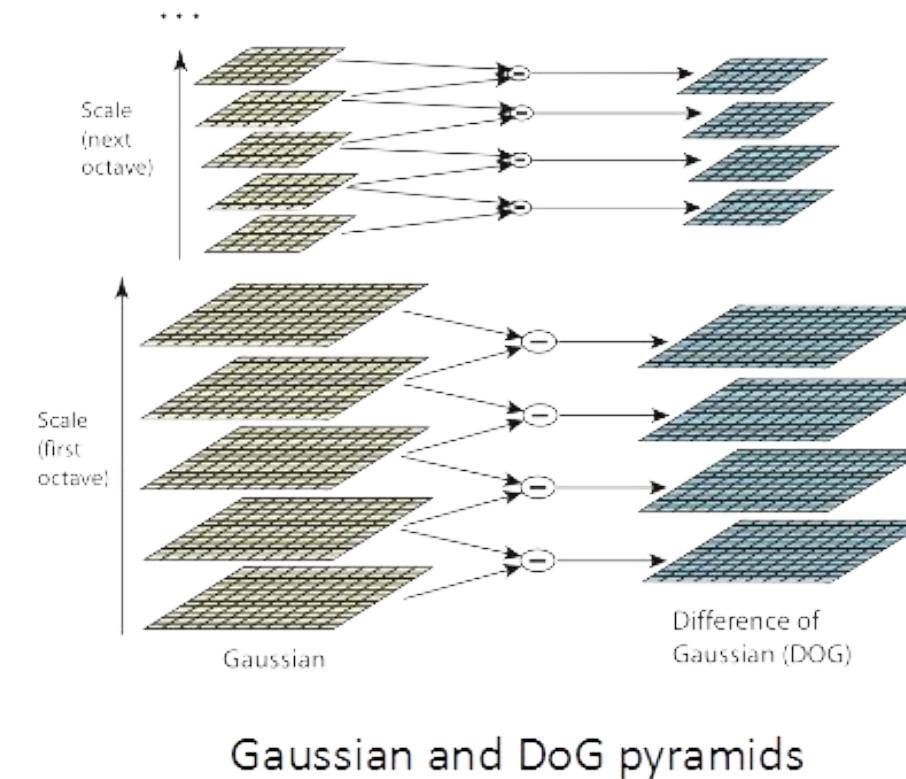
- Orientation assignment from local gradient



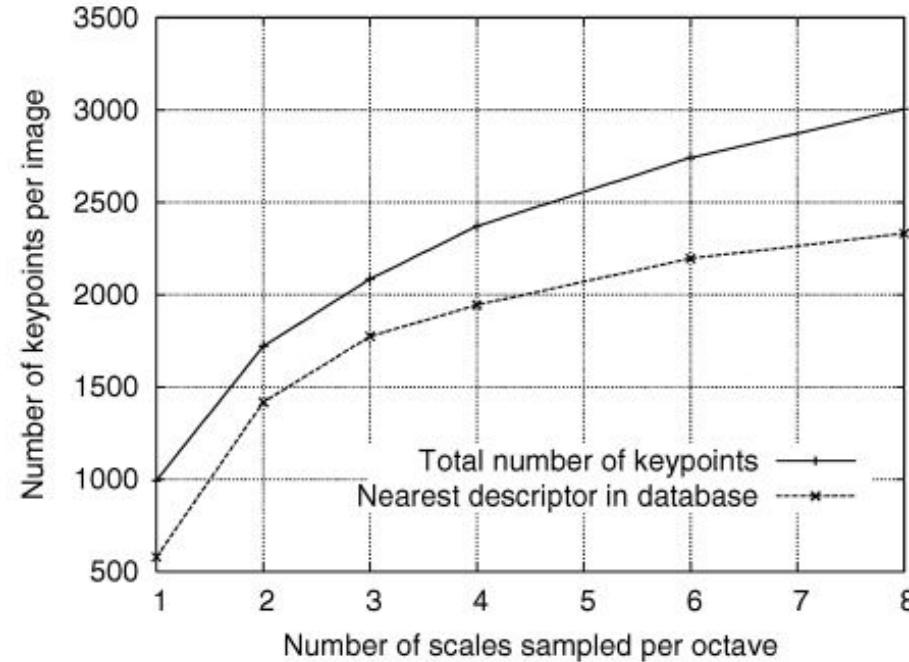
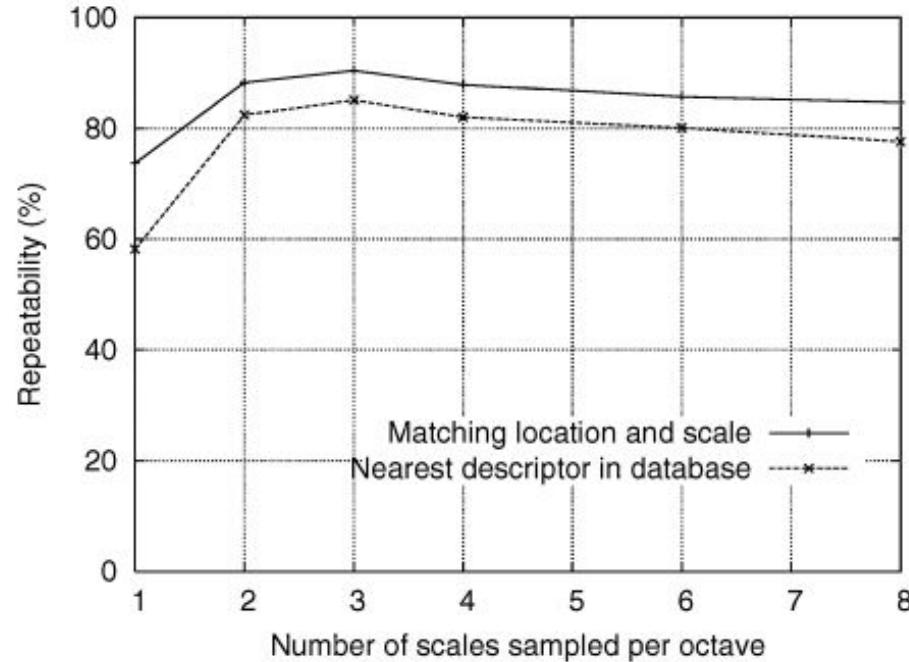
# Efficient computation of scale-space: DoG

- Geometric progression of scales with ratio  $k=2^{1/s}$
- Successive convolutions
- At each octave (i.e., every sample  $s \rightarrow$  scale factor of 2), resample image
  - every second pixel in each row and column
  - no accuracy loss
  - space & time efficient

Lowe 2004 © Springer



# Scale discretization parameter



Similar experiments for every SIFT parameter -> a huge engineering paper

# SIFT descriptor

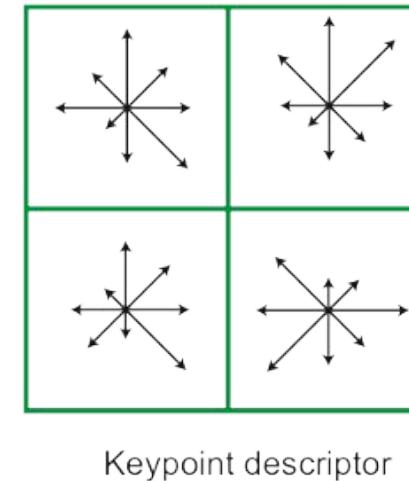
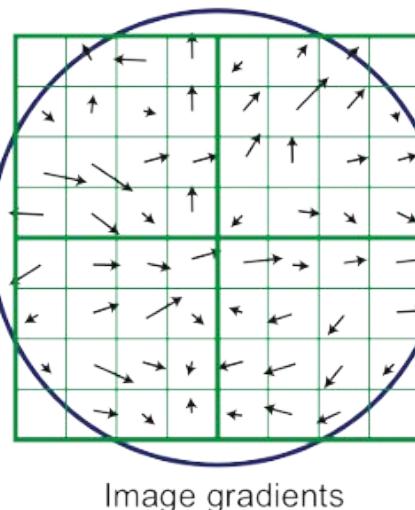
For a given keypoint at a given scale

- resize the region to  $NK \times NK$
- split it in a  $K \times K$  grid of cells of  $N \times N$  pixels
- Build a weighted histogram of gradient orientations in  $M$  directions

Typically,  $N=K=4$ ,  $M=8$

[shown: 2x2 grid of 4x4-pixel cells]

Lowe 2004 © Springer



# SIFT descriptor

Lots of tricks again:

- Gaussian weight on gradient magnitude
- Histogram smoothing

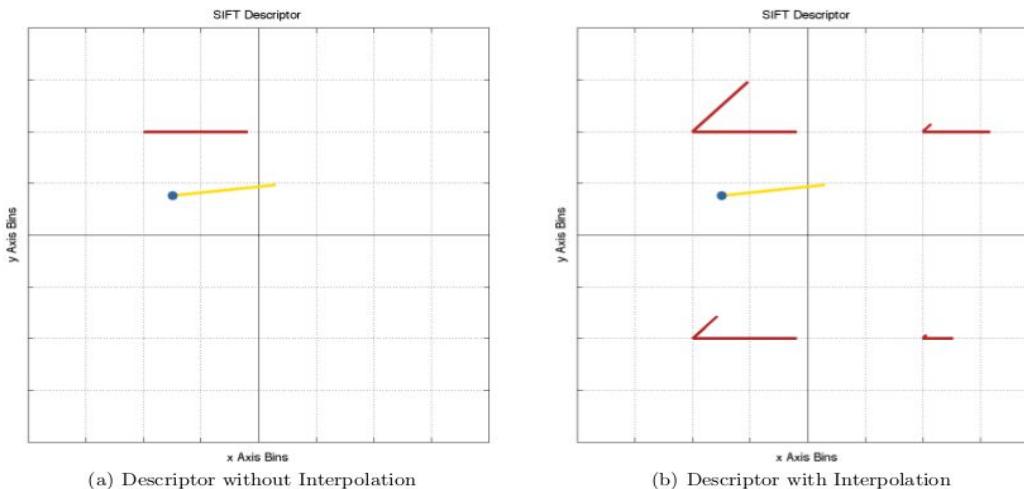


Figure 5: The effect of interpolation when generating the SIFT descriptor. A single pixel's gradient

- Normalization, thresholding of gradient, renormalization

# SIFT matching

- Measure of similarity between descriptors
  - Euclidean distance
- First to second nearest neighbor ratio test (to reduce nb of outliers), keep match only if ratio < 0.8



Does:

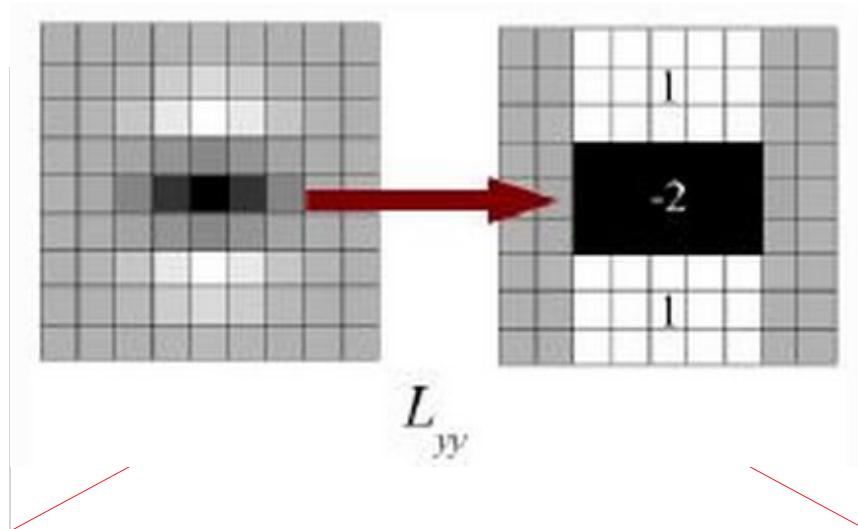
- orange match blue?
- Red match green?

# SIFT

- Tons of parameters (sizes, thresholds, etc.)
  - “good” parameters found by experimentation
    - ☛ possible bias towards used image database
- Many tiny details, some unsaid at all
- ☛ Most likely no 2 implementations give the same result

# SURF

- Inspired by SIFT
- Faster, using approximations and integral images



Bay, H., Tuytelaars, T., & Van Gool, Surf: Speeded up robust features, *ECCV 2006*

# Classical local features: summary

- Detectors: Harris, blob
- Description: ZNCC, shape context, HoG
- SIFT: detector + descriptor, 1st/2nd NN ratio test
- Evaluation/parameter tuning
- Lots of small but important and very general idea:
  - 1st to 2nd NN ratio, soft assignment, Taylor expansion / spectral decomposition, scale space, invariance/covariance...

# Outline

1. Classical local features
2. Deep local features
  - **learning patch descriptors**
  - learning dense detectors and descriptors
  - learning feature matching
3. Some deep 3D reconstruction

**Disclaimer: not a full litterature review!**

There are tons of paper over the last 2-5 years,  
this is a biaised selection to illustrate idea I think I worth knowing

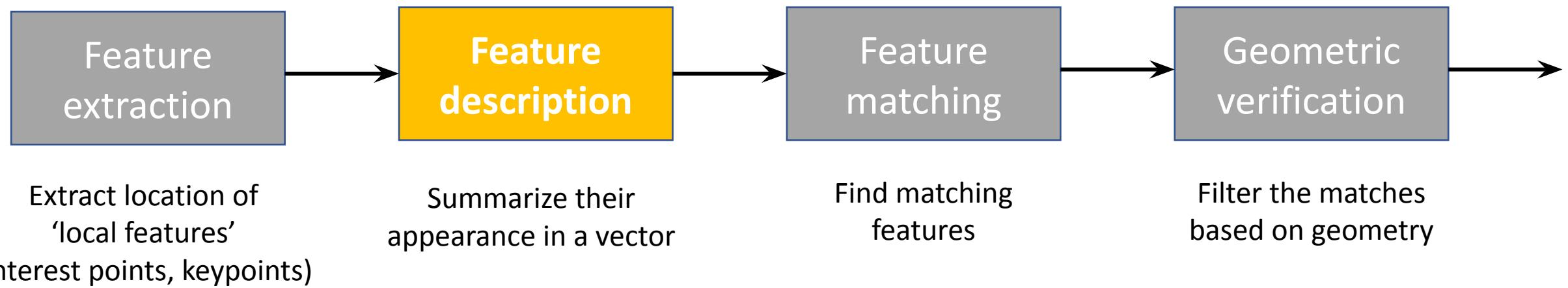
# Learning features and correspondences

1. Learning feature detectors and descriptors
  1. Patch-based
  2. Dense
2. Learning image matching
  1. Coarse Flow
  2. Fine flow
  3. MVS
3. Learning to filter correspondences

**Disclaimer: not a full litterature review!**

There are tons of paper over the last 2-5 years,  
this is a biaised selection to illustrate idea I think I worth knowing

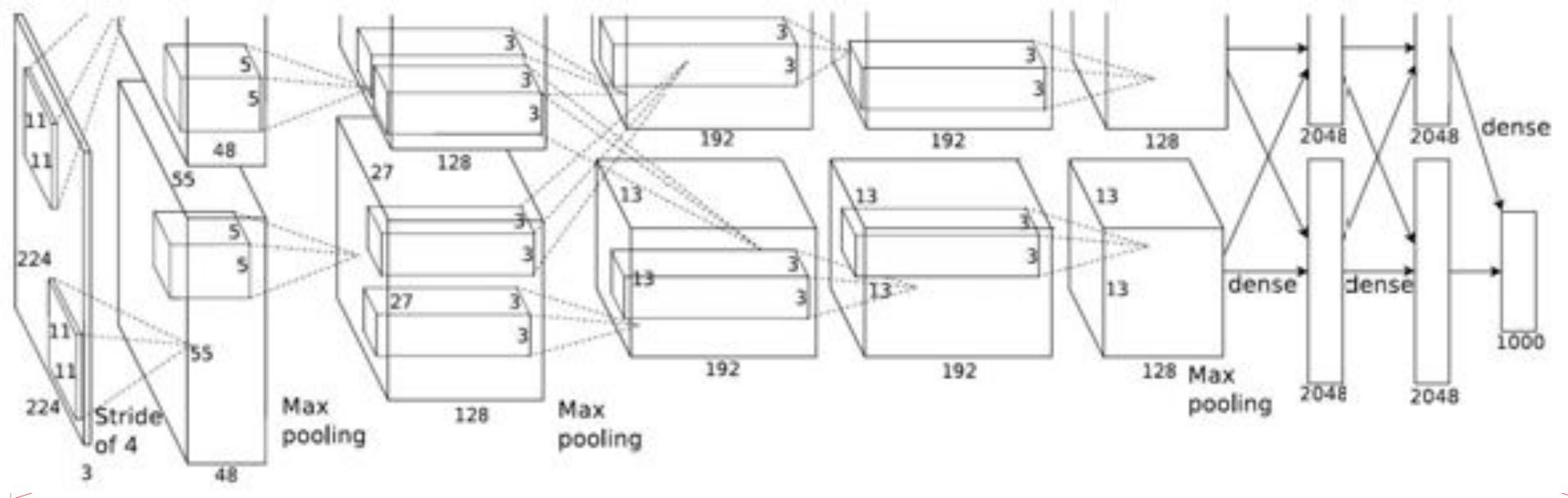
# Local features and correspondences pipeline for 3D reconstruction



# CNNs/Deep features

Standard CNNs (eg. AlexNet):

- Succession of convolutions, non linearities (ReLU) and max-poolings
- Trained for image classification (1 million images from ImageNet)



Fischer, P., Dosovitskiy, A., & Brox, T. , Descriptor matching with convolutional neural networks: a comparison to sift. *arXiv preprint 2014*

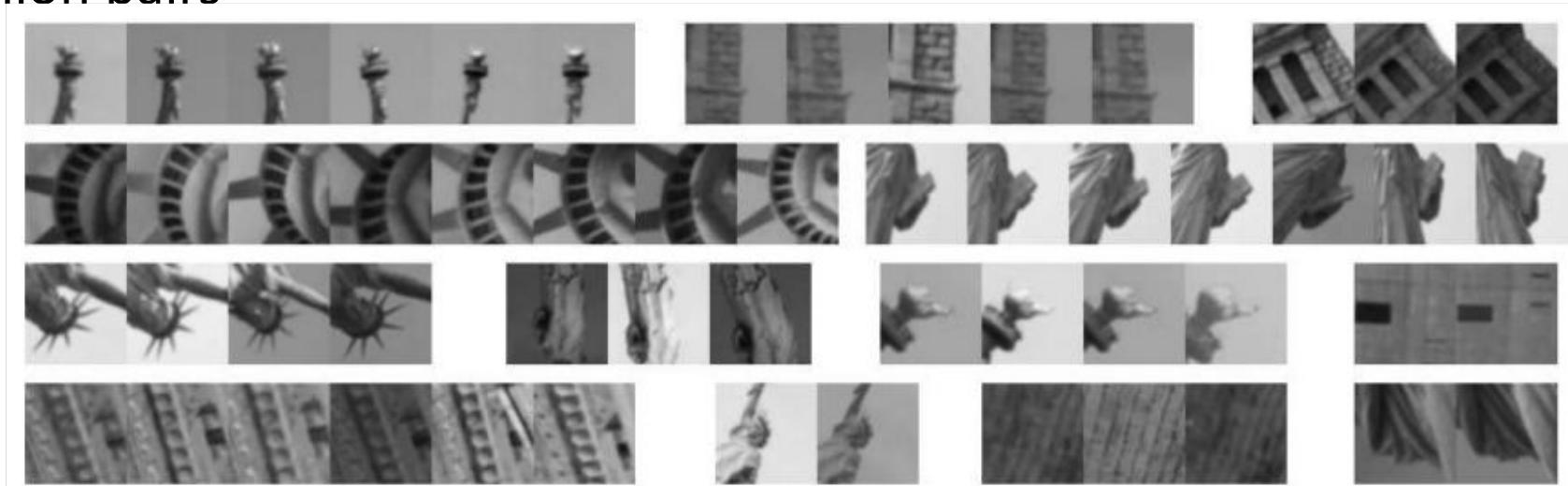
Conv 4 features seem generic and outperform SIFTs

# Patch descriptor learning

Idea: create a large database of ground truth local feature matches using the 3D of reconstructed scenes and use it to learn the parameter of a descriptor.

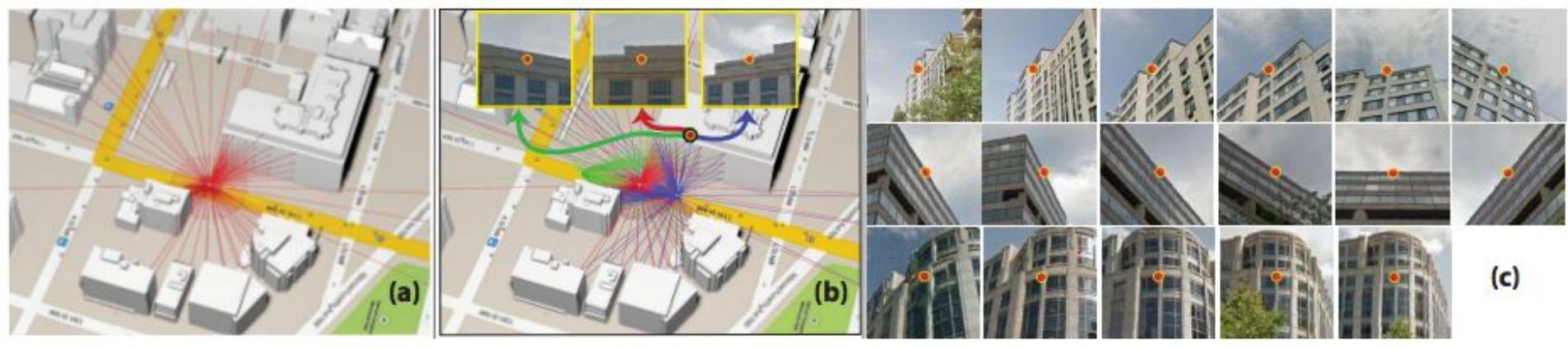
One of the first: M. Brown, G. Hua, and S. Winder. Discriminative learning of local image descriptors. PAMI 2011

-> 0.5 million pairs



# Going larger scale

- 0.5 billion correspondences from Google Street View



Zamir, A. R., Wekel, T., Agrawal, P., Wei, C., Malik, J., & Savarese, S.  
Generic 3D Representation via Pose Estimation and Matching, ECCV 2016

# Going larger scale

- Large datasets have been curated for SFM



73 models

J. Heinly, J. Schoenberger, E. Dunn, and J.-M. Frahm.

**Reconstructing the World in Six Days.** CVPR, 2015

200 models

Li, Z., & Snavely, N.

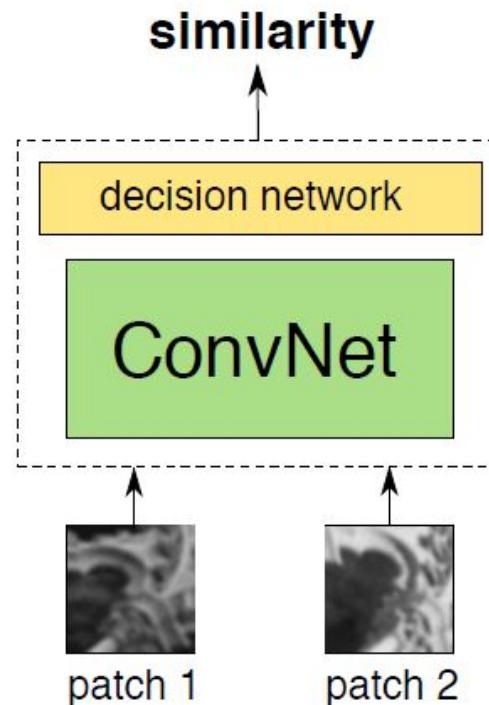
**Megadepth: Learning single-view depth prediction from internet photos.** CVPR

2018

-> can be used for training, but not/far from perfect

# Deep patch feature descriptors

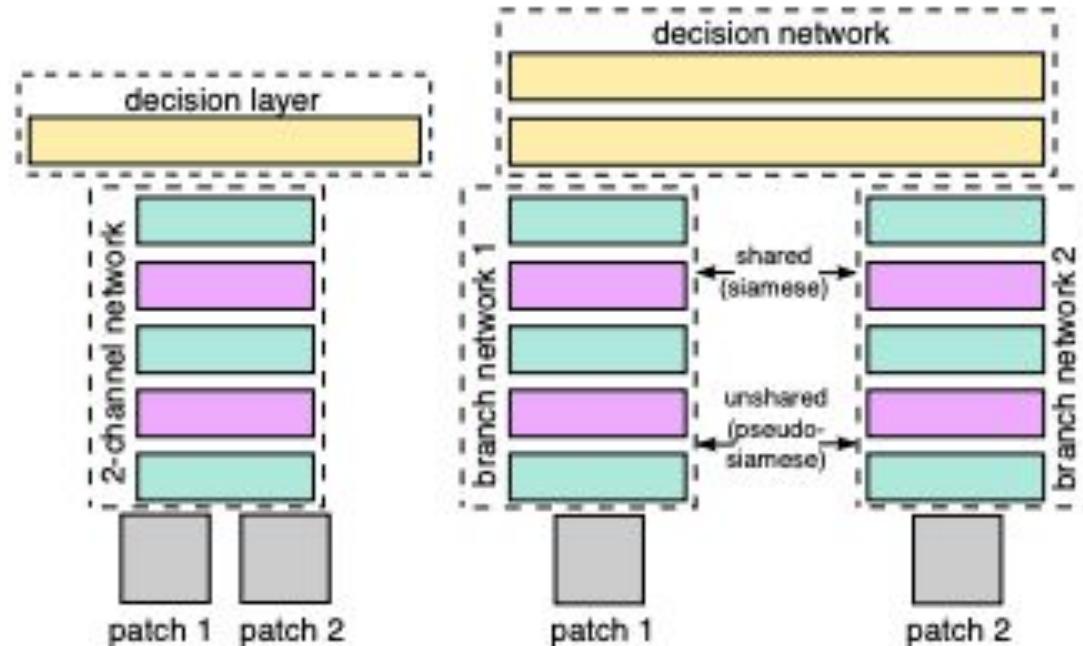
Idea: learning to compare features using a large database of ground truth correspondences



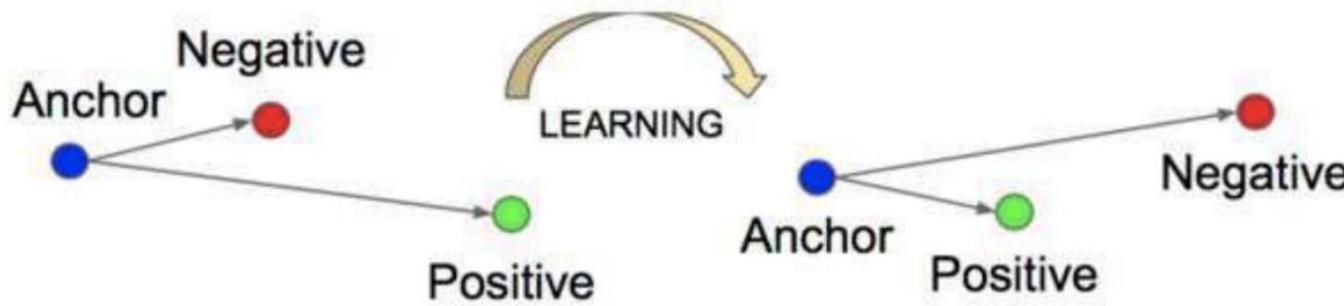
Zagoruyko, S., & Komodakis, N. Learning to Compare Image Patches via Convolutional Neural Networks. *CVPR 2015*

# Many options

- Architecture  
e.g. decision network  
with early vs. late  
fusion
- In recent works, simply  
feature comparison with  
cosine/L2 distance



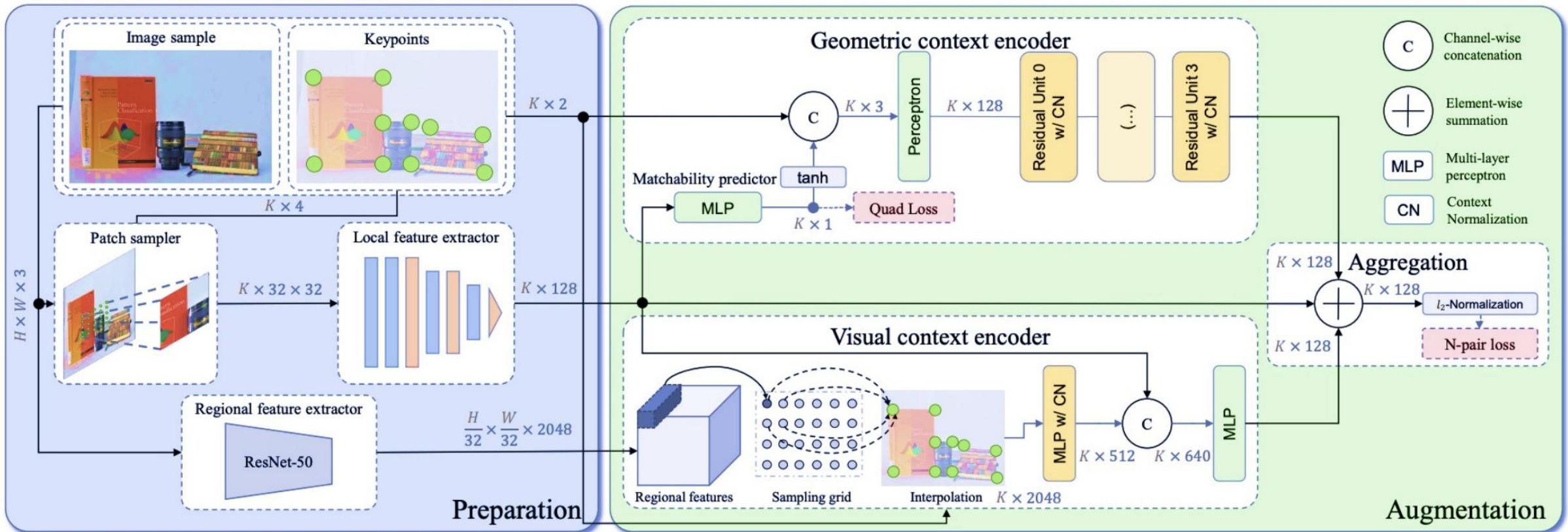
# Triplet loss / Contrastive loss



$$Loss = \sum_{i=1}^N \left[ \|f_i^a - f_i^p\|_2^2 - \|f_i^a - f_i^n\|_2^2 + \alpha \right]$$

→ Choice of positive and negative is important (hard negative/positive mining)

# Contextdesc



**ContextDesc: Local Descriptor Augmentation with Cross-Modality Context in CVPR 2019**  
 Zixin Luo Tianwei Shen Lei Zhou Jiahui Zhang Yao Yao Shiwei Li Tian Fang and Long Quan

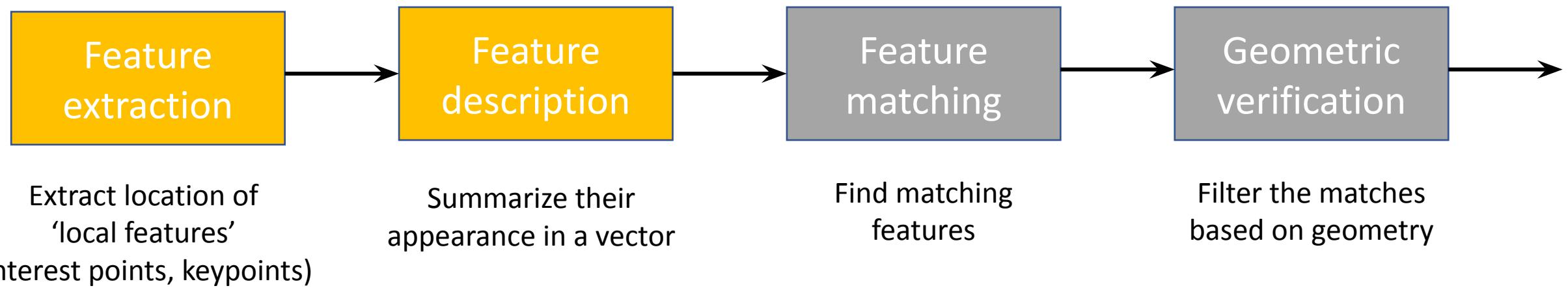
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# Local features and correspondences pipeline for 3D reconstruction



# Deep detectors/dense local descriptors

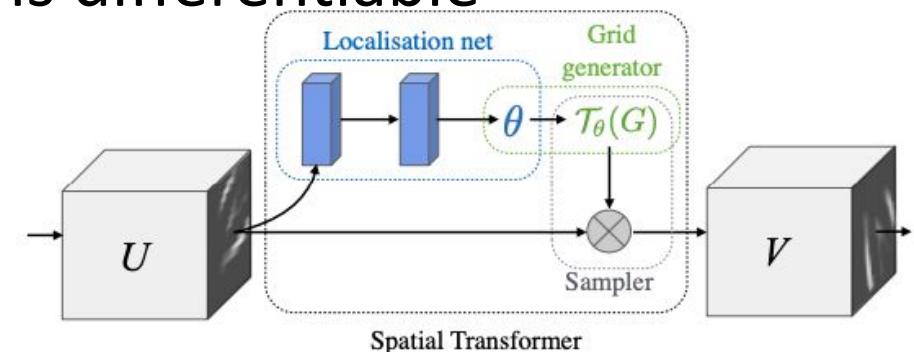
- Use the full image
- Use a fully convolutional architecture

2 key elements:

- **Spatial transformer network:** cropping is differentiable

Jaderberg, M., Simonyan, K., & Zisserman, A.  
**Spatial transformer networks.** NIPS 2015

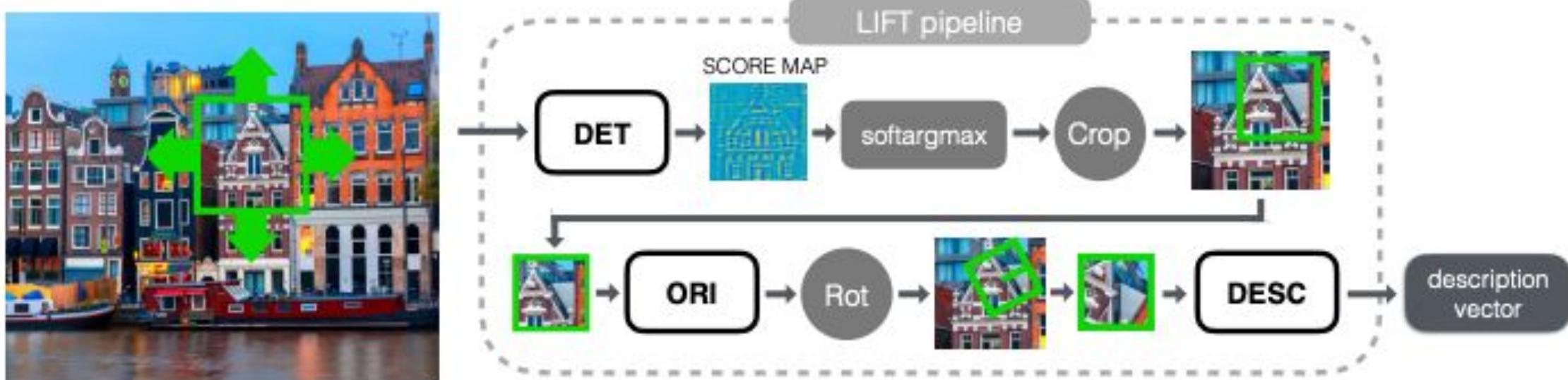
- **Soft-argmax:** similar to softmax



$$\text{softargmax}(\mathbf{S}) = \frac{\sum_{\mathbf{y}} \exp(\beta \mathbf{S}(\mathbf{y})) \mathbf{y}}{\sum_{\mathbf{y}} \exp(\beta \mathbf{S}(\mathbf{y}))}$$

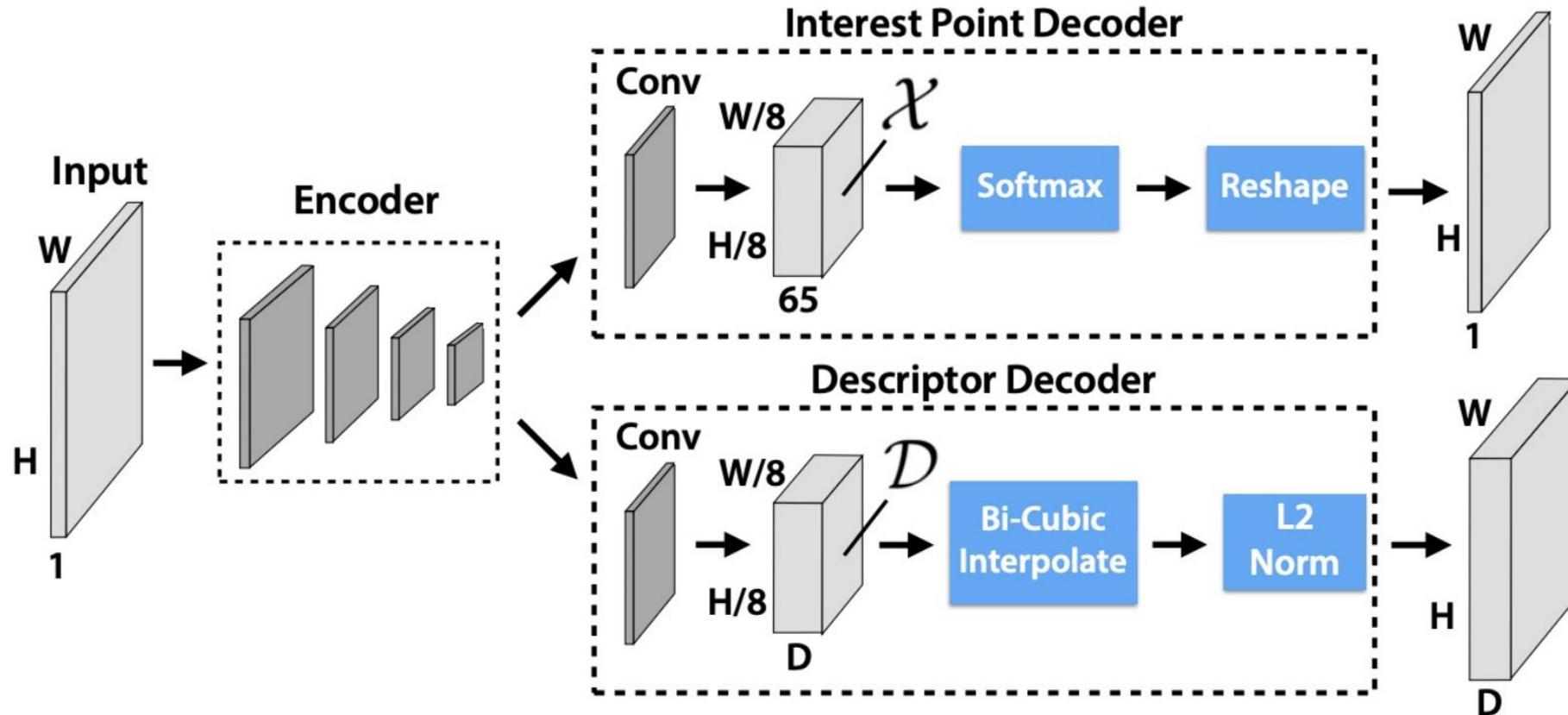
# LIFT

- Stay close to SIFT pipeline



- every operation can be made differentiable (softargmax, spatial transformer networks)
- Training data: SIFT-based SFM points
- Loss descriptors: hinge embedding  $\mathcal{L}_{\text{desc}}(\mathbf{p}_\theta^k, \mathbf{p}_\theta^l) = \begin{cases} \|\mathbf{h}_\rho(\mathbf{p}_\theta^k) - \mathbf{h}_\rho(\mathbf{p}_\theta^l)\|_2 & \text{for positive pairs, and} \\ \max(0, C - \|\mathbf{h}_\rho(\mathbf{p}_\theta^k) - \mathbf{h}_\rho(\mathbf{p}_\theta^l)\|_2) & \text{for negative pairs ,} \end{cases}$
- Loss orientation: minimize descriptors distance
- Loss detector: peaked distribution in regions with SfM points + flat distribution in regions with no SfM points + leads to similar descriptors for positives (pre-training with IoU of reconstructed points)
- Descriptor, orientation and detector learned one after the other

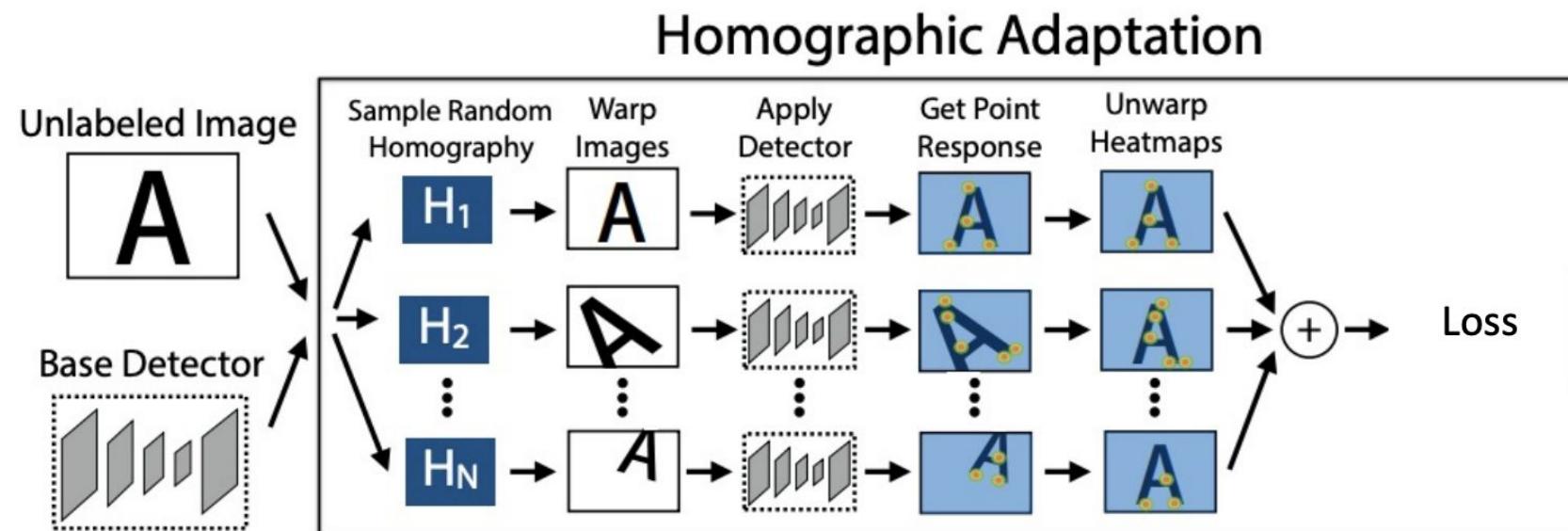
# Superpoint



DeTone, D., Malisiewicz, T., & Rabinovich, A.  
Superpoint: Self-supervised interest point detection and description.  
CVPR 2018

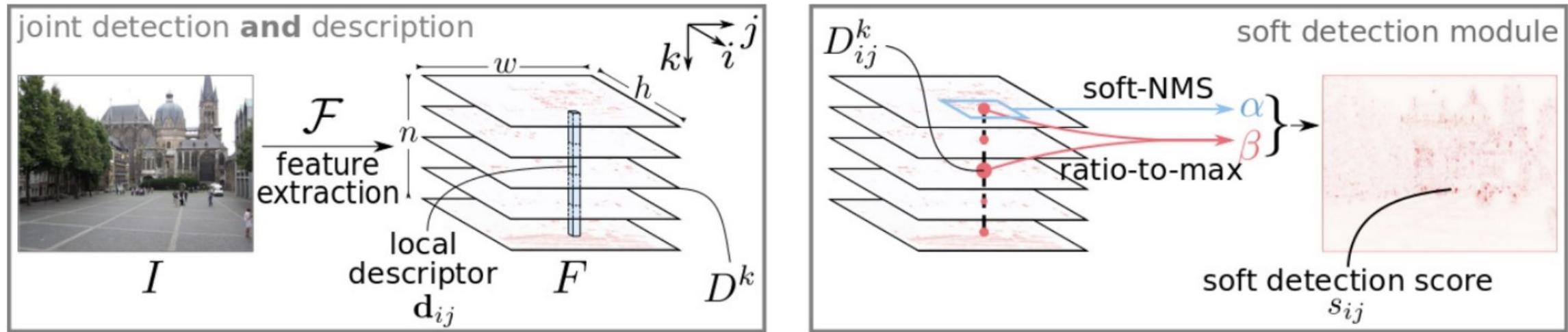
# Superpoint

- 1<sup>st</sup> training on synthetic shape (including interest points labels)
- 2<sup>nd</sup> training on synthetic image transformations



DeTone, D., Malisiewicz, T., & Rabinovich, A.  
Superpoint: Self-supervised interest point detection and description.  
CVPR 2018

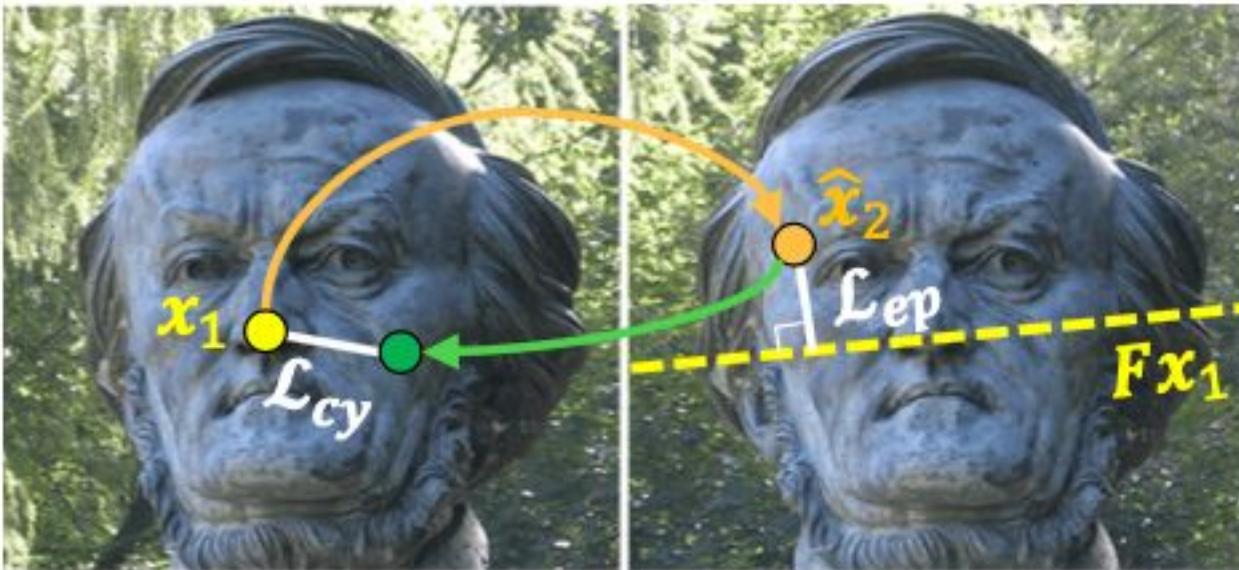
# D2-net



- Descriptors are simply the CNN features
- Detection is max norm features + NMS made differentiable

Dusmanu, M., Rocco, I., Pajdla, T., Pollefeys, M., Sivic, J., Torii, A., & Sattler, T.  
D2-net: A trainable cnn for joint description and detection of local features.  
CVPR 2019

# Weak supervision from epipolar geometry



Wang, Q., Zhou, X., Hariharan, B., & Snavely, N.  
Learning feature descriptors using camera pose supervision.  
ECCV 2020

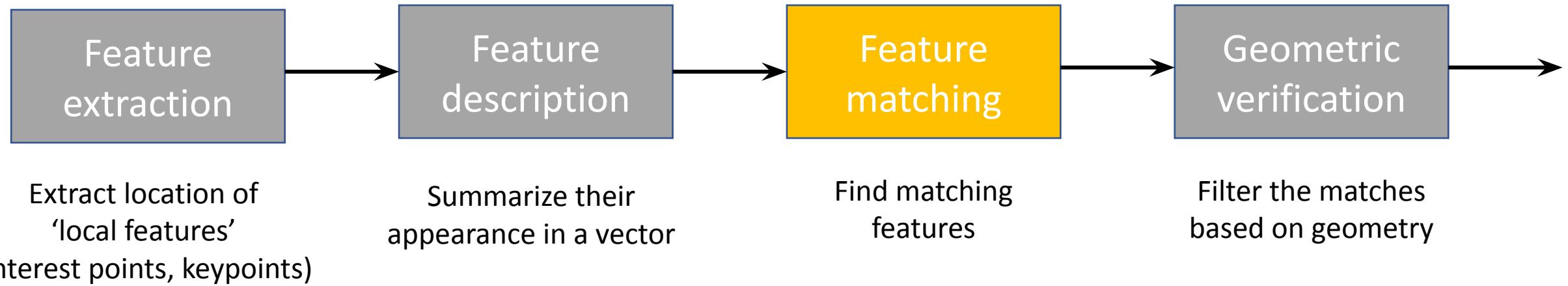
# Outline

1. Classical local features
2. Deep local features
  - learning patch descriptors
  - learning dense detectors and descriptors
  - **learning feature matching**
3. Some deep 3D reconstruction

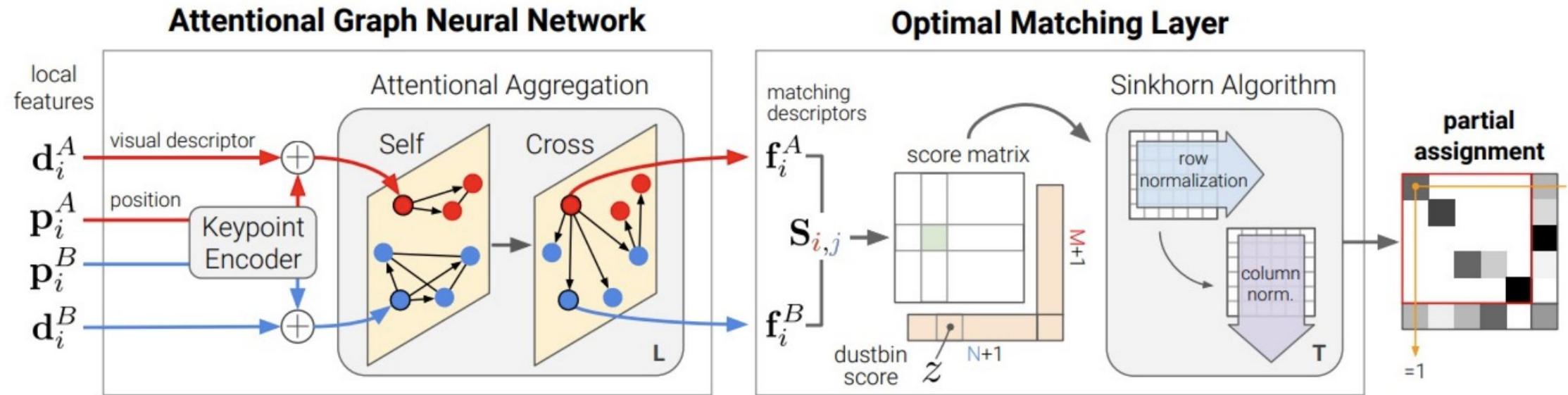
**Disclaimer: not a full literature review!**

There are tons of paper over the last 2-5 years,  
this is a biased selection to illustrate idea I think I worth knowing

# Local features and correspondences pipeline for 3D reconstruction



# Superglue

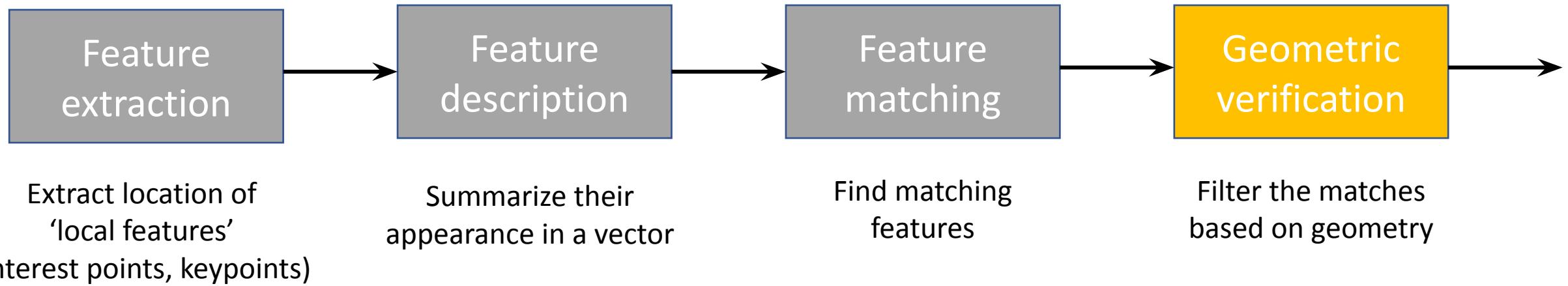


- Consider keypoint extraction and description done
- Feature matching problem = Graph matching
- Use GNN (here transformers)

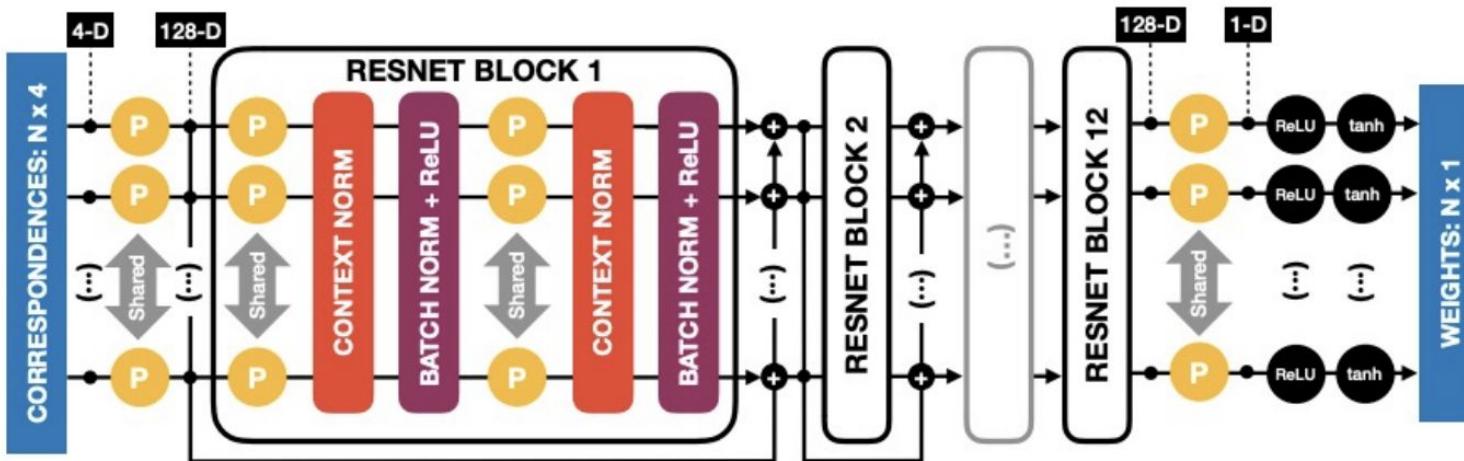
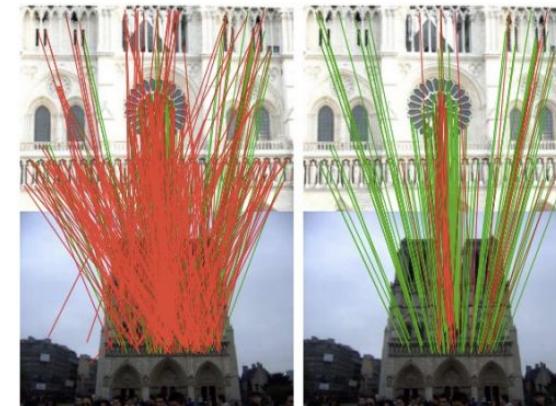
# Superglue

- Training on mix of synthetic transformations and real SfM
- Trained detector and descriptors + superglue à best method today

# Local features and correspondences pipeline for 3D reconstruction



# Learning to filter correspondences



Input = raw matches ( $m^*4$ )

Output = weights « how good the match is »

Supervision = GT geometry

Moo Yi, K., Trulls, E., Ono, Y., Lepetit, V., Salzmann, M., & Fua, P.  
**Learning to find good correspondences.** CVPR 2018

# Learning to filter correspondences

- Computing the essential matrix is a SVD which is a differentiable operation
- Compute the SVD with weighted correspondences and compare it to the GT essential matrix -> optimize weights
- Also uses (and start with only) cross entropy with “GT” labels

# Evaluation

- Remains an important challenge, as datasets with good Ground Truth are rare, small, biased...
- A solution can be to evaluate another task than 3D reconstruction, for which GT is easier to get, e.g. localization

# Outline

1. Classical local features
2. Deep local features
3. Some deep 3D reconstruction

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# Outline

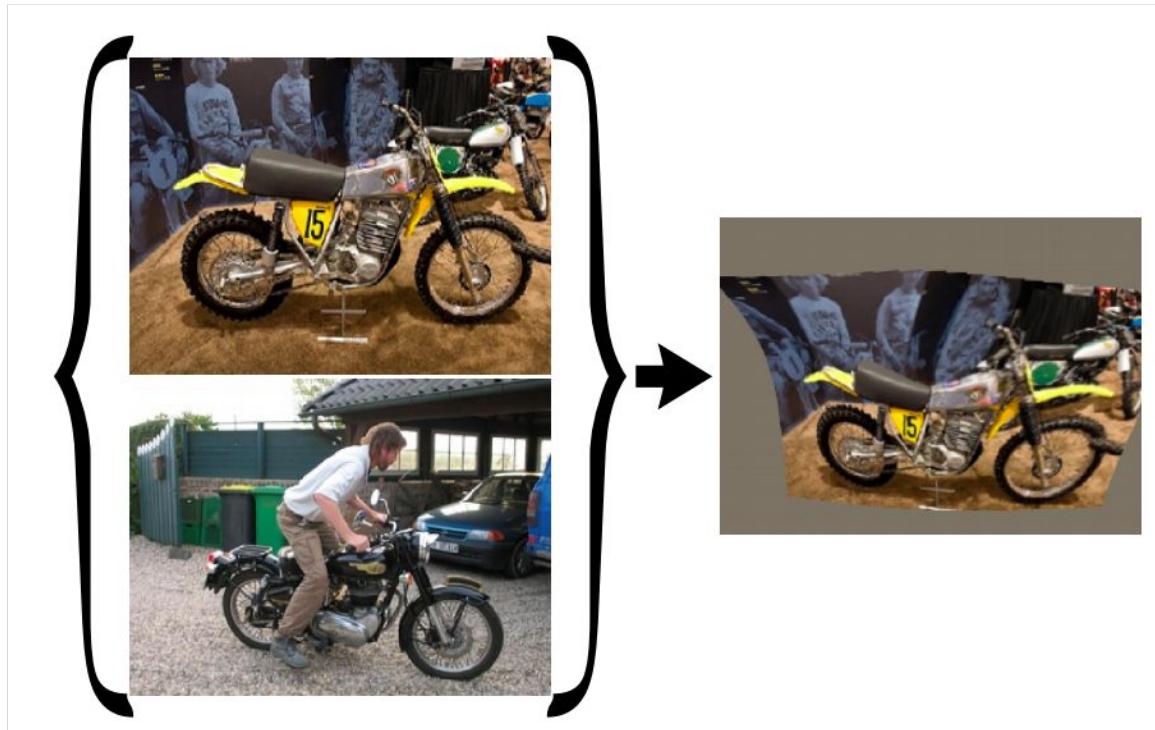
1. Classical local features
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3. Some deep 3D reconstruction
  - Correspondences without keypoints
    - Coarse Flow
    - Fine flow
    - Deep MVS
  - NERFs

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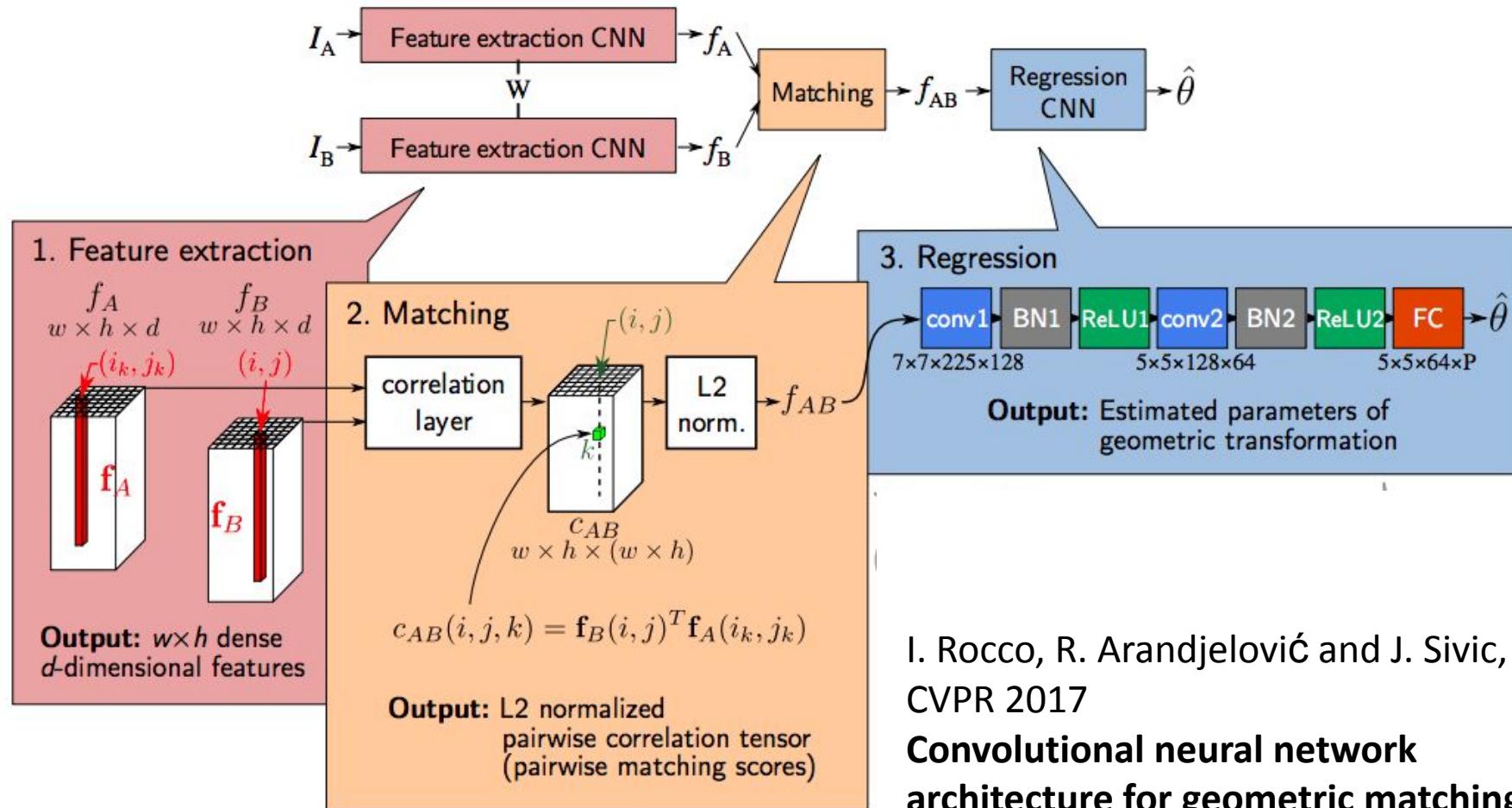
# Learning transformation

- By learning to predict transformation



# Learning transformation

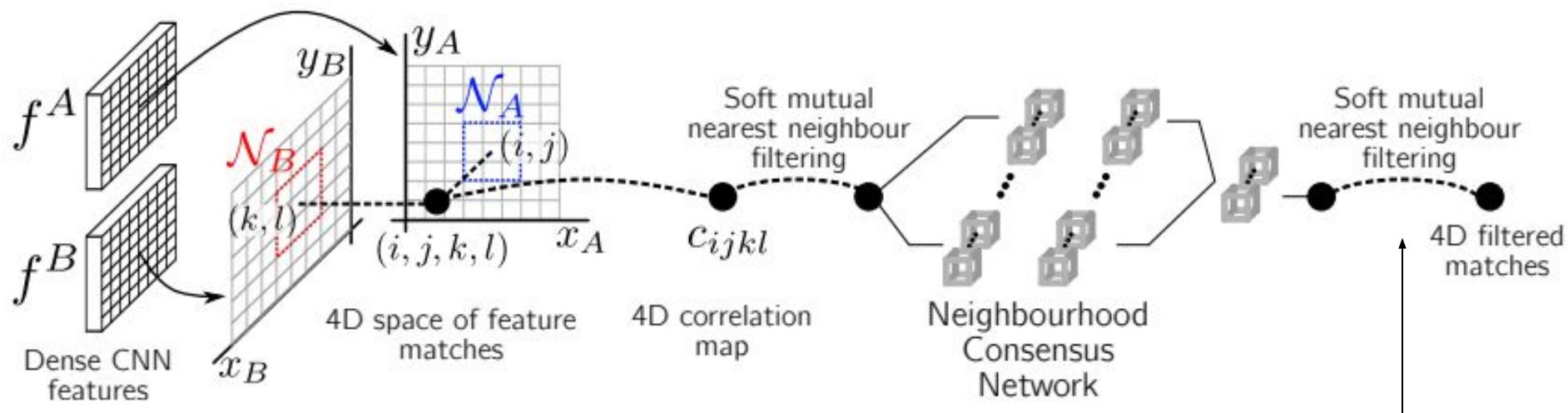
- By learning to predict transformation



# Learning to match features

- Using consistency

$$r_{ijkl}^A = \frac{c_{ijkl}}{\max_{ab} c_{abkl}}, \quad \text{and} \quad r_{ijkl}^B = \frac{c_{ijkl}}{\max_{cd} c_{ijcd}}$$



$$s_{ijkl}^A = \frac{\exp(c_{ijkl})}{\sum_{ab} \exp(c_{abkl})} \quad \text{and} \quad s_{ijkl}^B = \frac{\exp(c_{ijkl})}{\sum_{cd} \exp(c_{ijcd})}$$

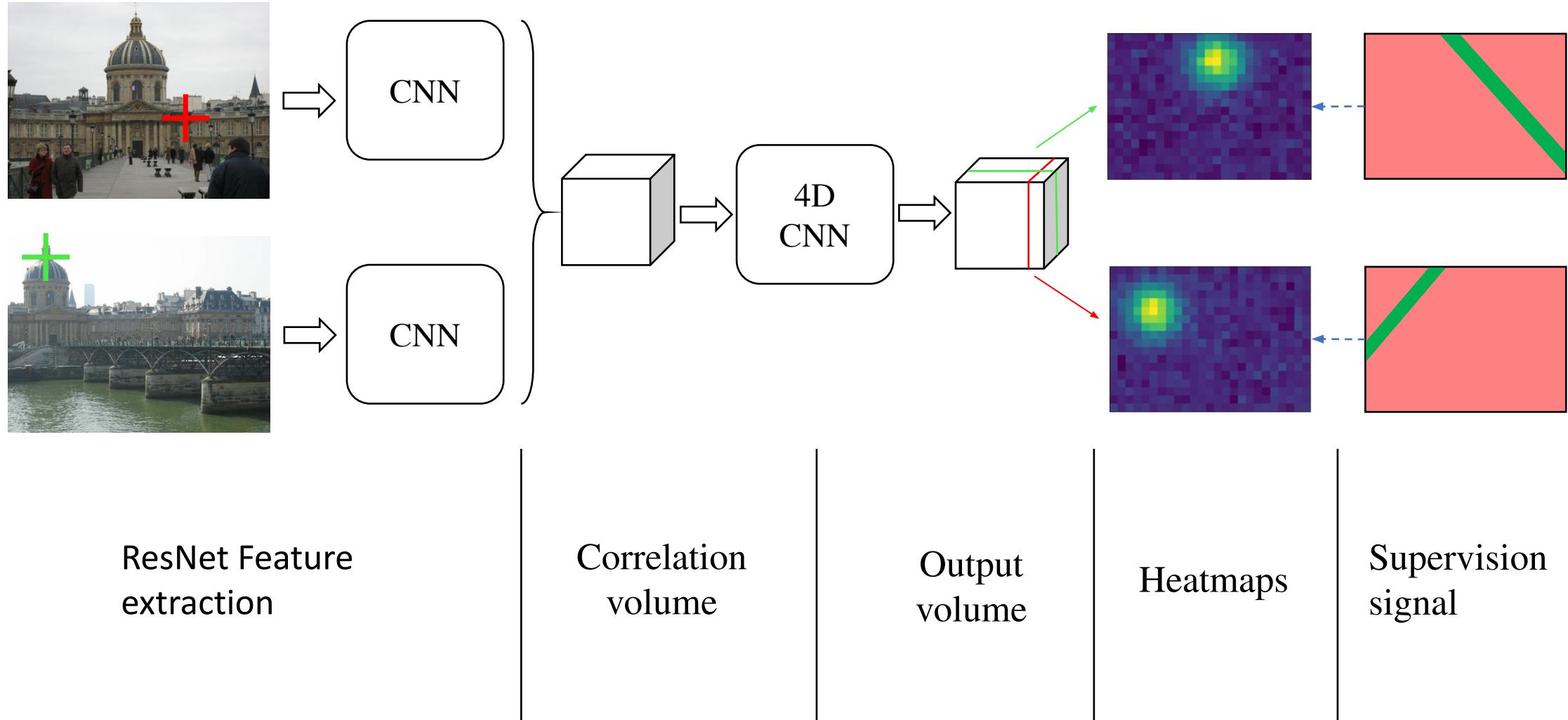
# Learning to match features

- Using weak supervision only  
(pairs of matching and non matching images)

$$\mathcal{L}(I^A, I^B) = -y (\bar{s}^A + \bar{s}^B)$$

y=1 for positive pairs, -1 for negative pairs

# Epipolar supervision



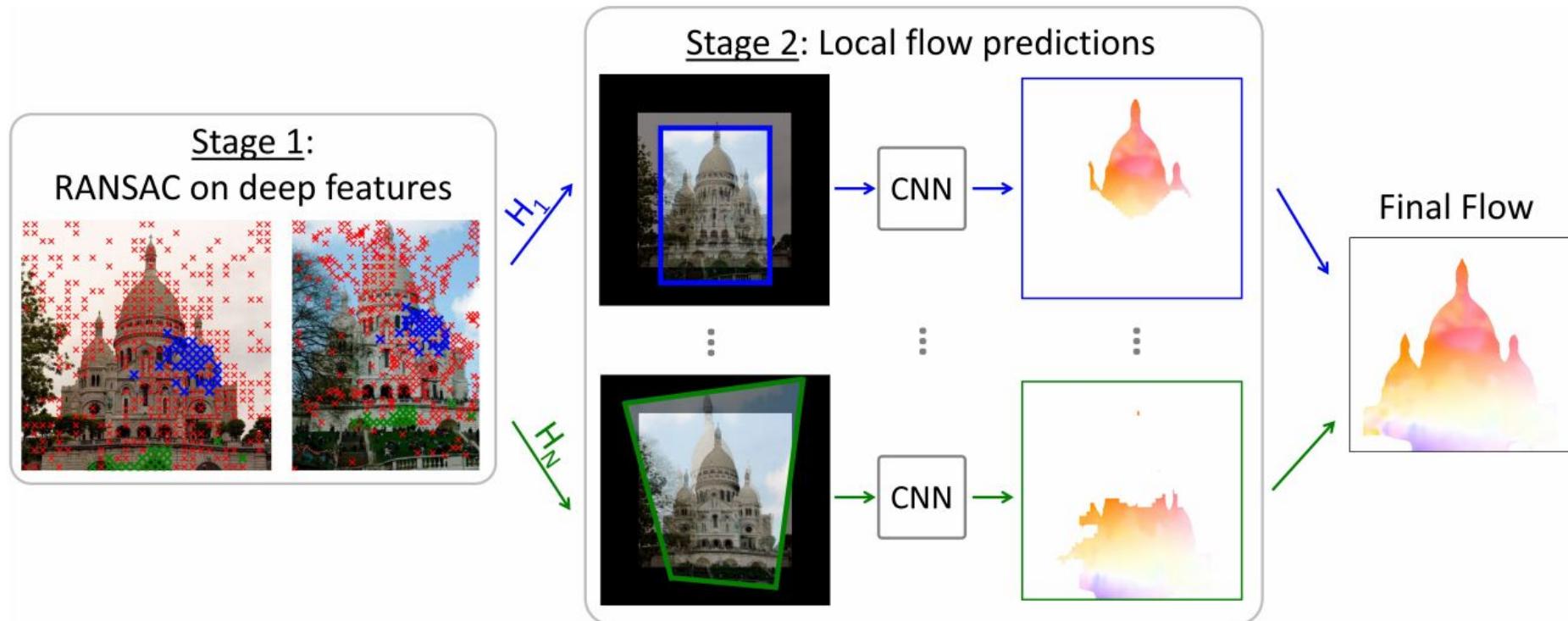
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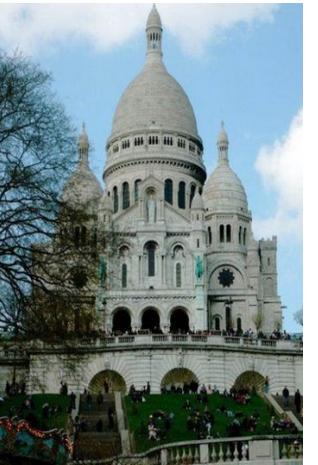
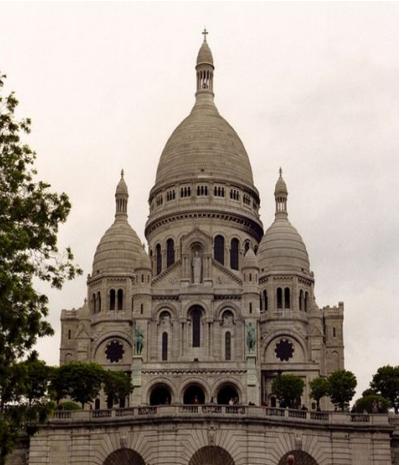
# RANSAC-Flow



Shen, X., Darmon, F., Efros, A. A., & Aubry, M.  
RANSAC-Flow: generic two-stage image alignment.  
ECCV 2020

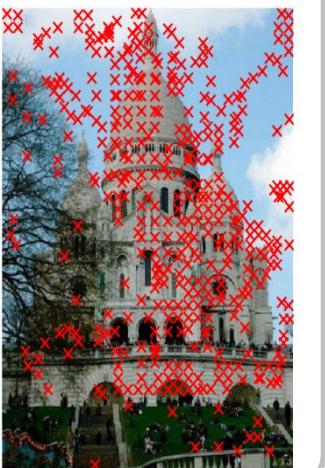
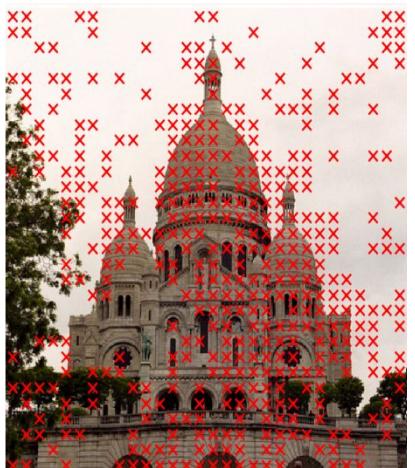
# RANSAC-Flow

Stage 1:  
RANSAC on deep features



# RANSAC-Flow

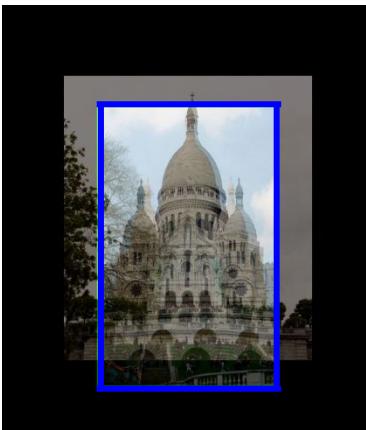
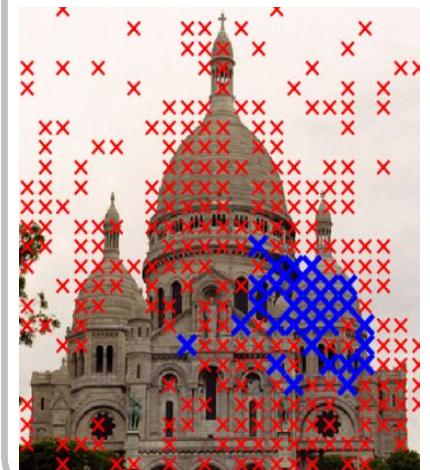
Stage 1:  
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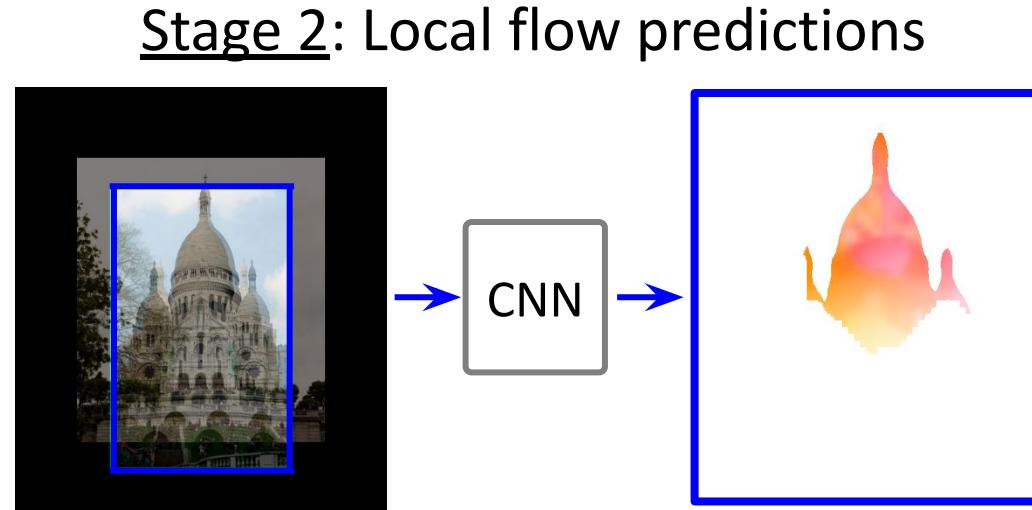
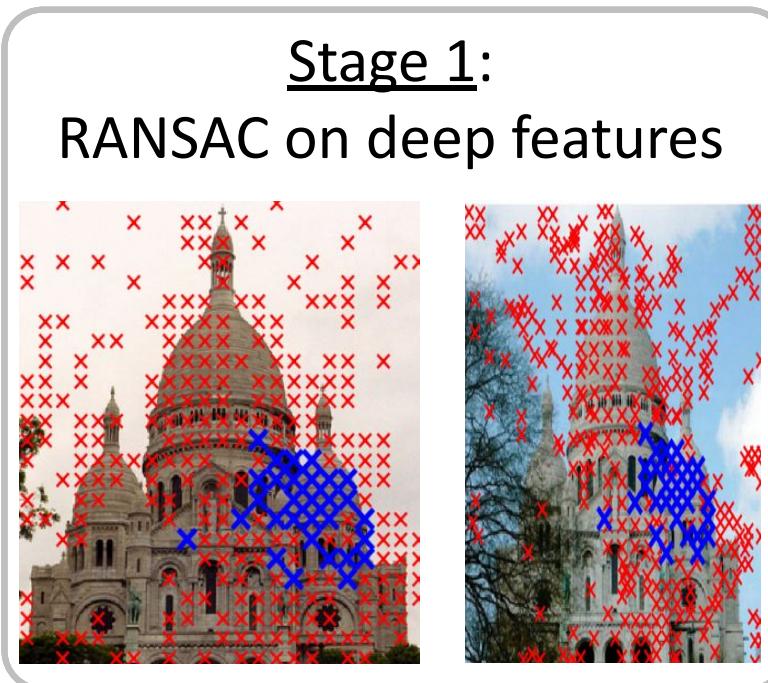
# RANSAC-Flow

## Stage 1:

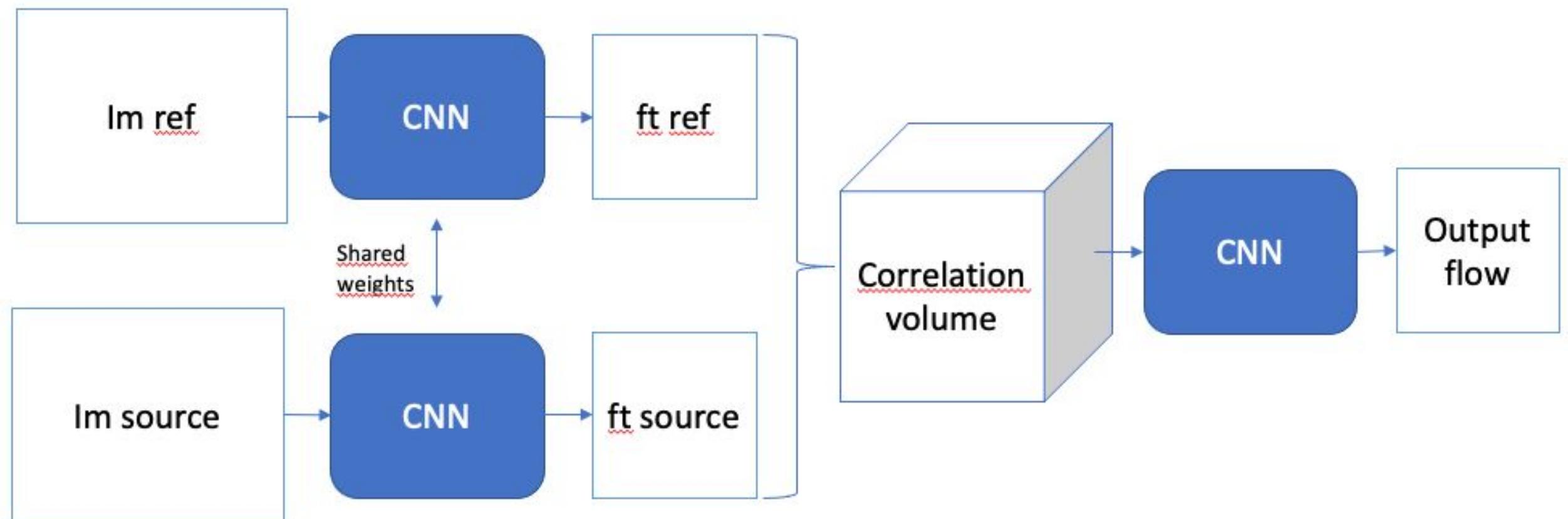
RANSAC on deep features



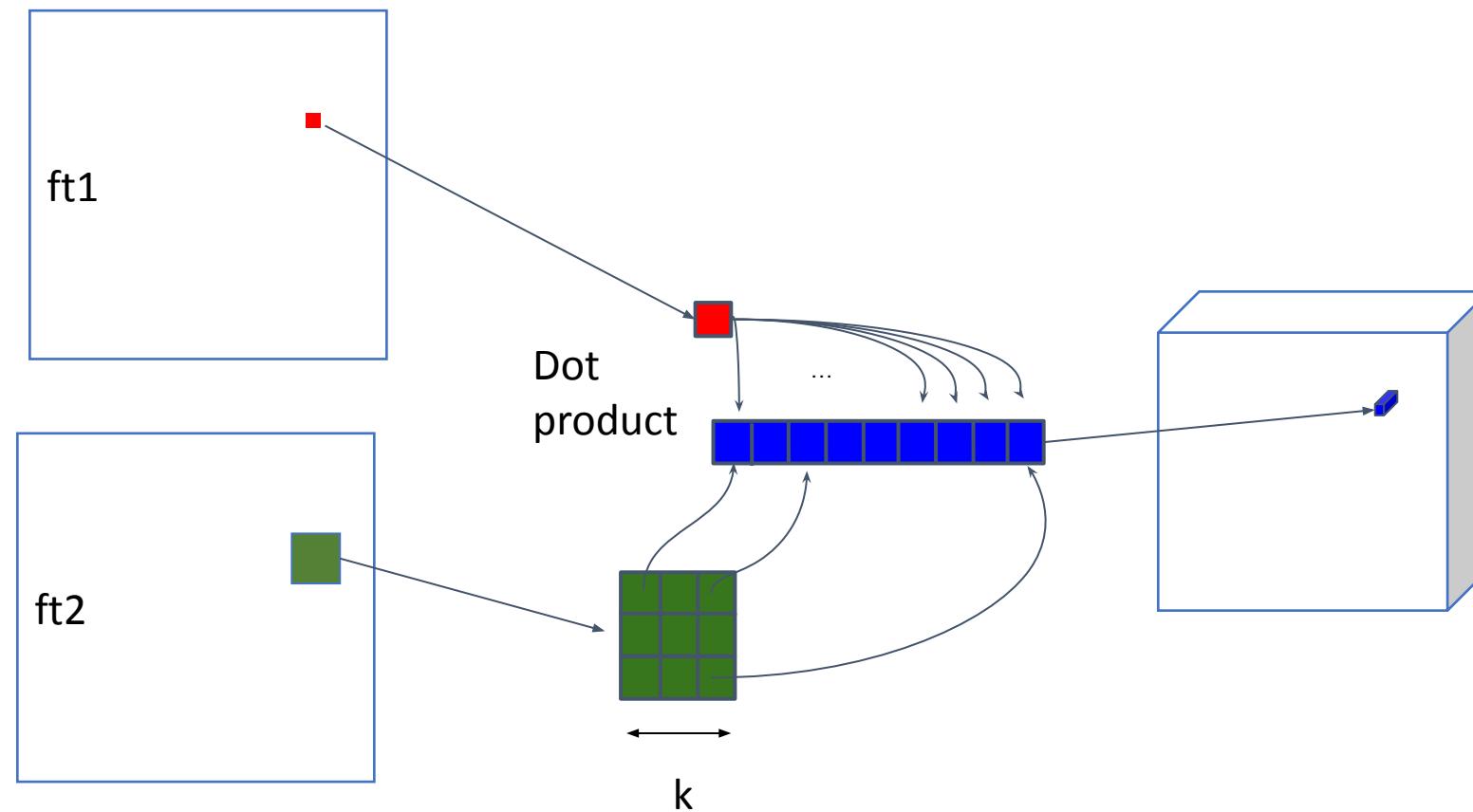
# An unsupervised two-stage method



# Architecture (RANSAC-Flow)



# Correlation volume (RANSAC-flow, standard in OF)



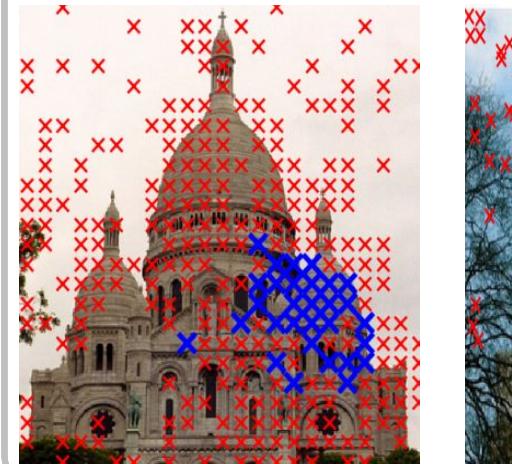
# RANSAC-Flow

SSIM + mask + cycle-consistency loss

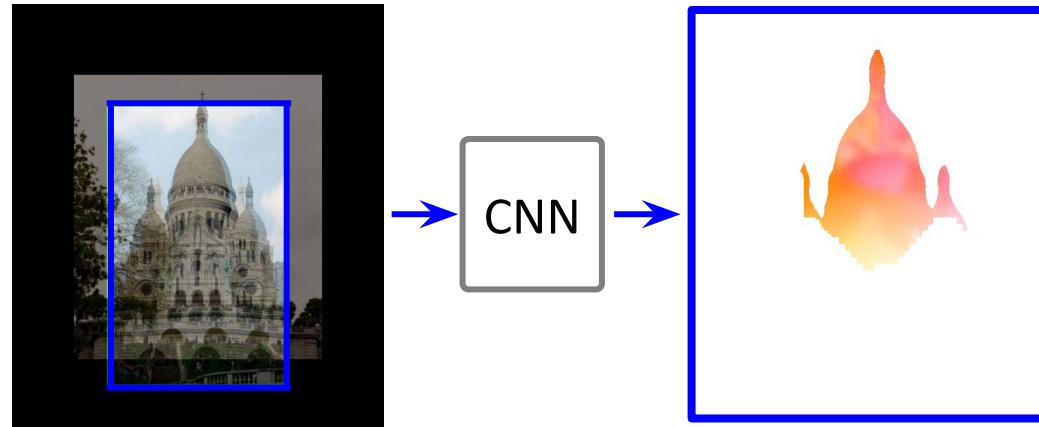
Stage 2: Local flow predictions

Stage 1:

RANSAC on deep features



$H^1$



$$\mathcal{L}_m(I_s, I_t) = \sum_{(x,y) \in I_t} |M_t^{cycle}(x, y) - 1|$$



Mask loss



Confidence at  $(x, y)$

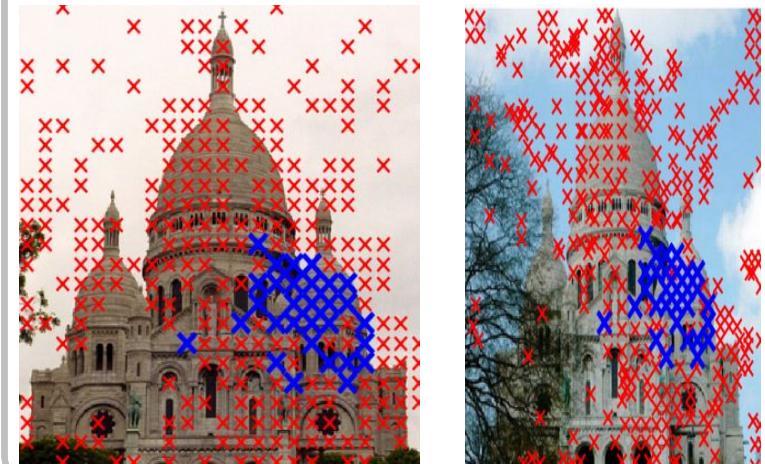
# RANSAC-Flow

SSIM + mask + cycle-consistency loss

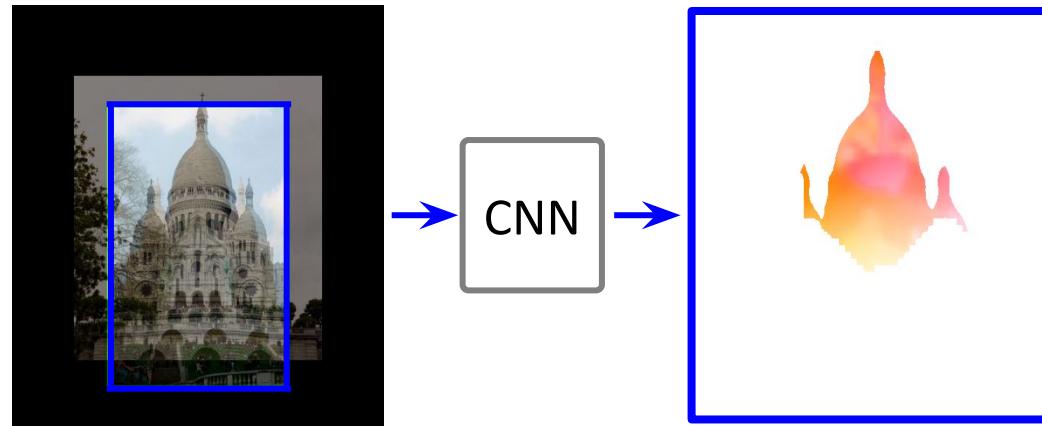
Stage 2: Local flow predictions

Stage 1:

RANSAC on deep features



$H \nearrow$



$$\mathcal{L}_{rec}^{SSIM}(I_s, I_t) = \sum_{(x,y) \in I_t} M_t^{cycle}(x, y) (1 - SSIM(I_s(x', y'), I_t(x, y)))$$

Confident regions

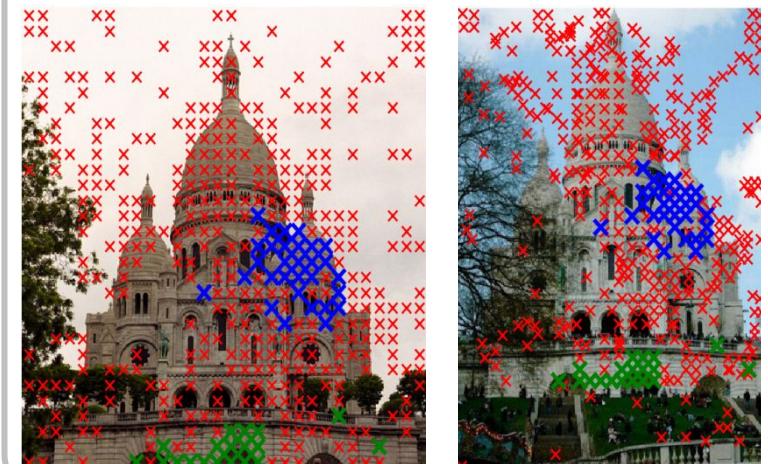
$$\mathcal{L}_c(I_s, I_t) = \sum_{(x,y) \in I_t} M_t^{cycle}(x, y) \| (x', y'), \mathbf{F}_{t \rightarrow s}(x, y) \|_2$$

# RANSAC-Flow

SSIM + mask + cycle-consistency loss

## Stage 1:

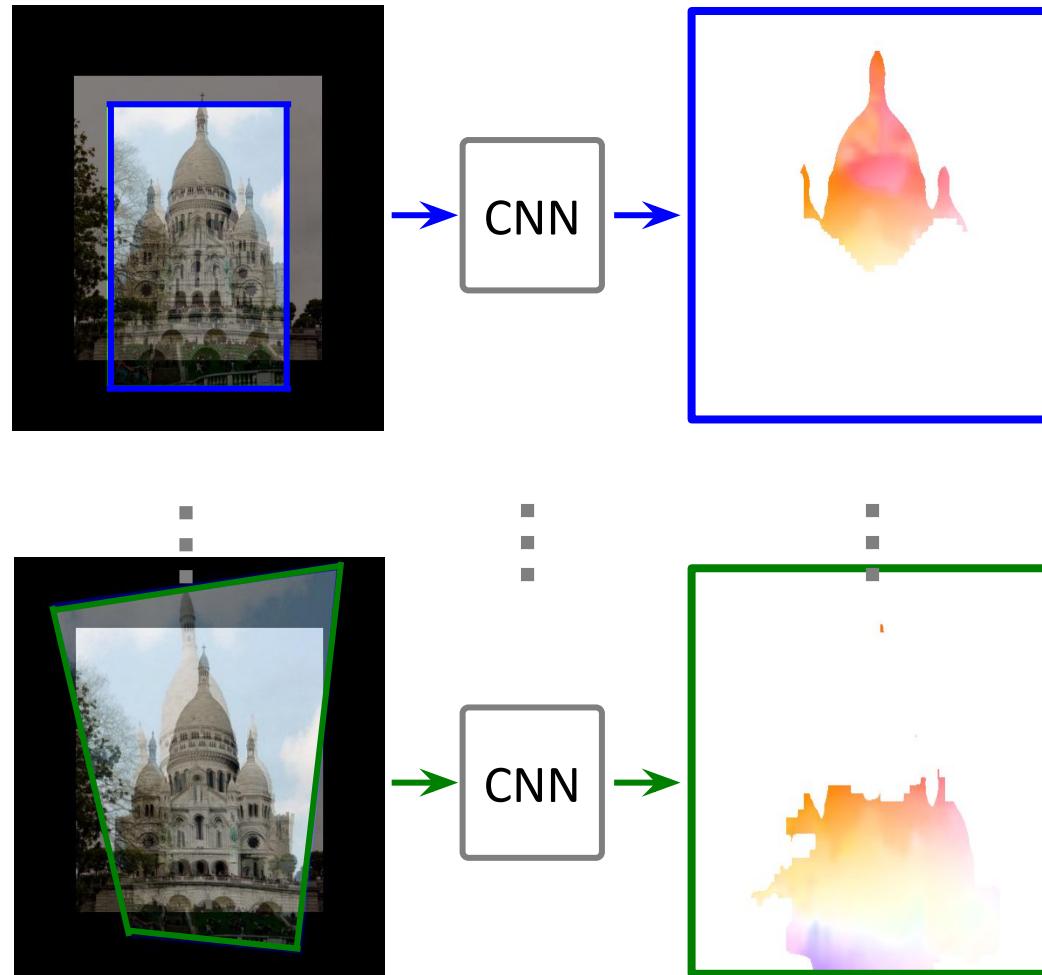
RANSAC on deep features



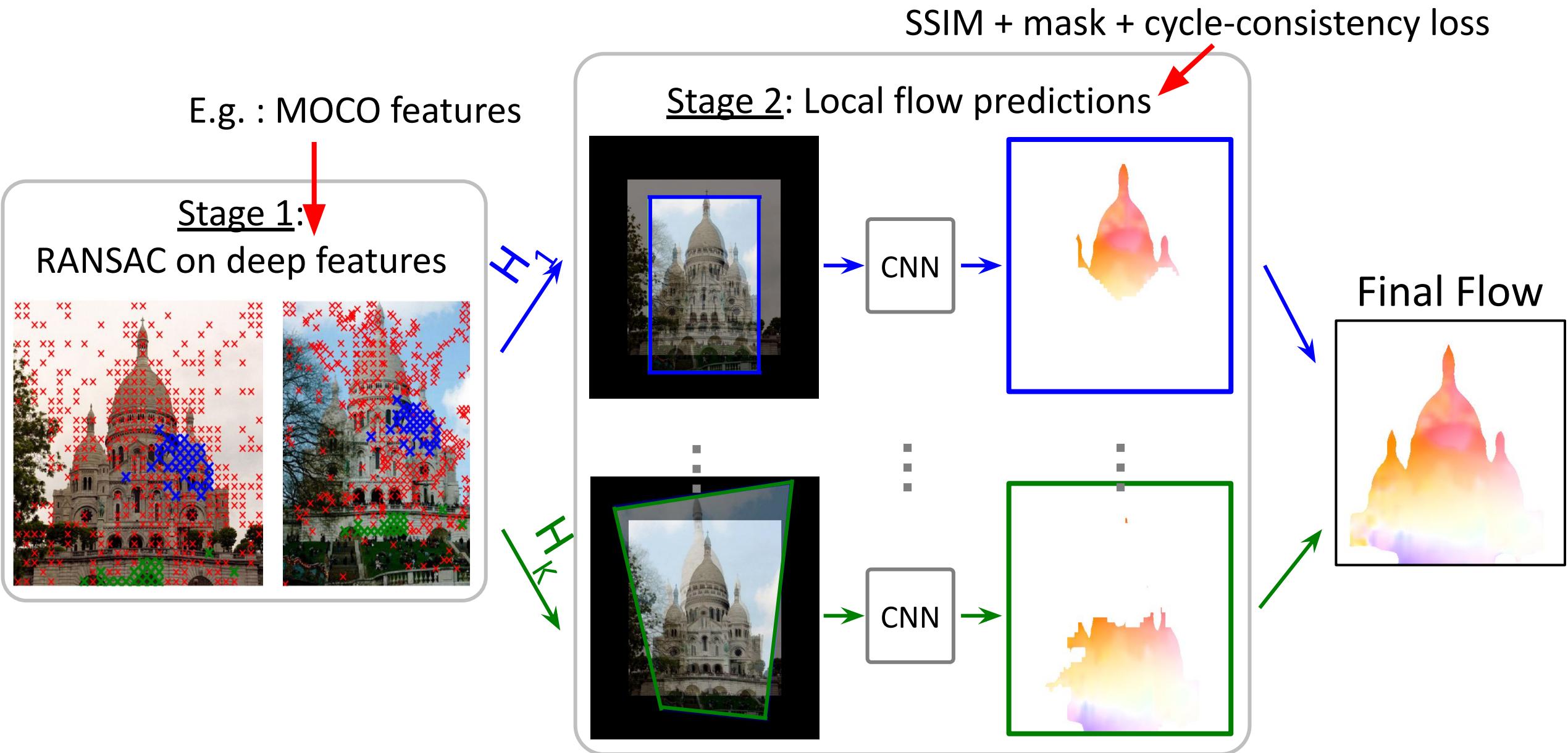
$H^1$

$H^2$

## Stage 2: Local flow predictions



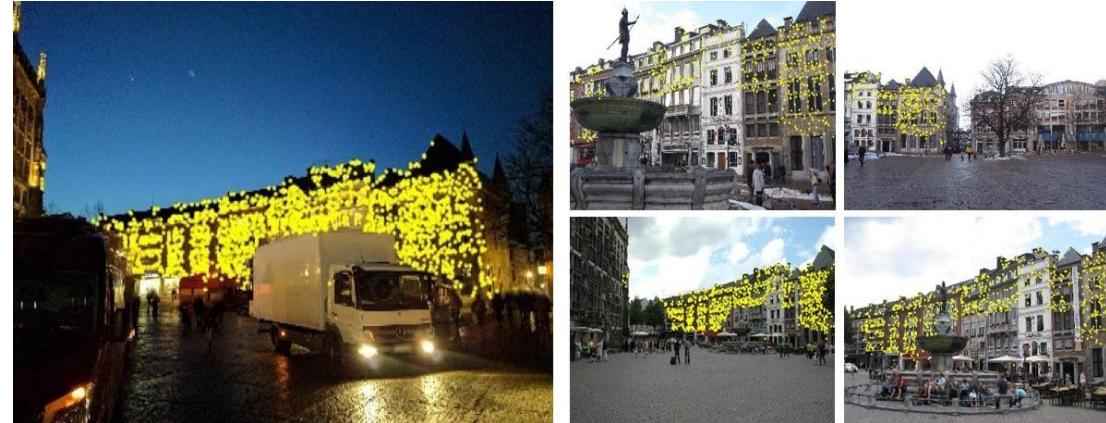
# RANSAC-Flow



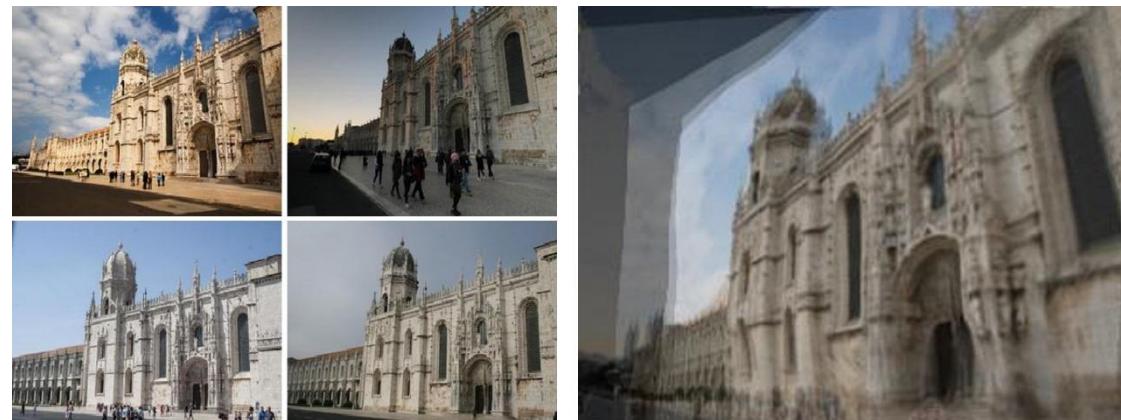
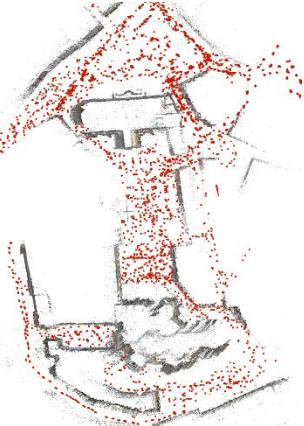
# No 3D, unsupervised generic image alignment



Optical flow



Localization



Dense image alignment



2-view geometry estimation

# Application: Aligning artworks from Brueghel [6,7]

[6]: Brueghel family,  
<http://www.janbrueghel.net/>



[7]: Shen Xi et al., Discovering visual patterns in art collections with spatially-consistent feature learning, CVPR 2019

# Average images of the inputs



Average image after our coarse alignment



# Average image after our fine alignment



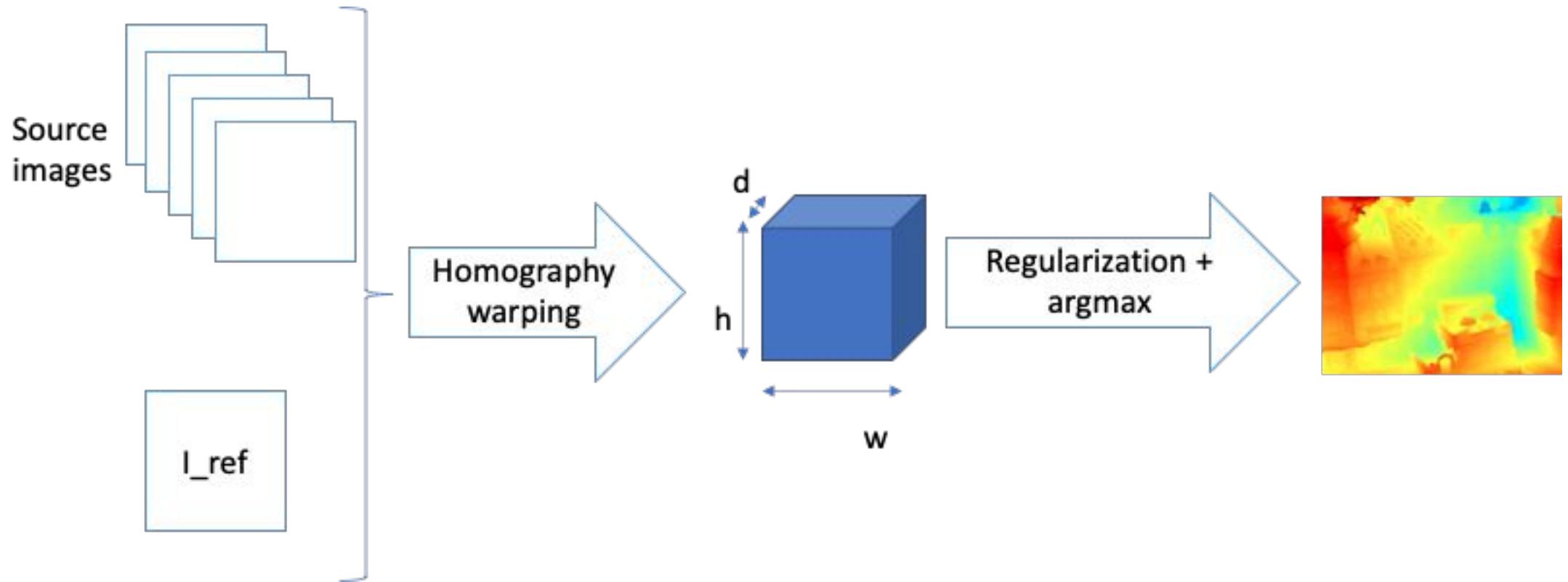
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1. Classical local features
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    - **Deep MVS**
  - NERFs

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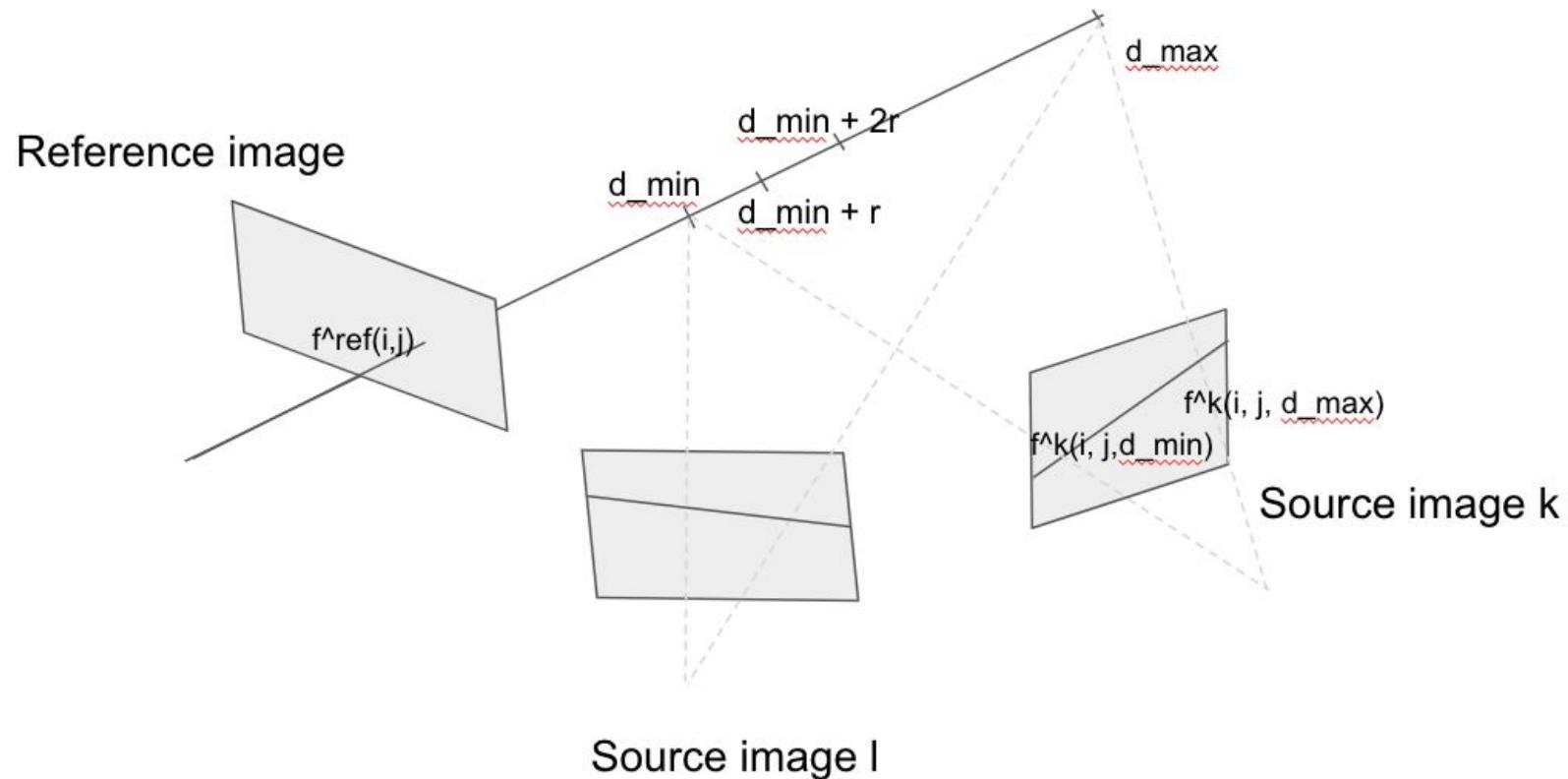
# Deep MVS



Huang, P. H., Matzen, K., Kopf, J., Ahuja, N., & Huang, J. B.  
DeepMVS: Learning multi-view stereopsis.  
CVPR2018

# Deep MVS

$$c_{i,j,d} = \text{var} (f^{\text{ref}}(i, j), f^1(i, j, d), \dots, f^N(i, j, d))$$



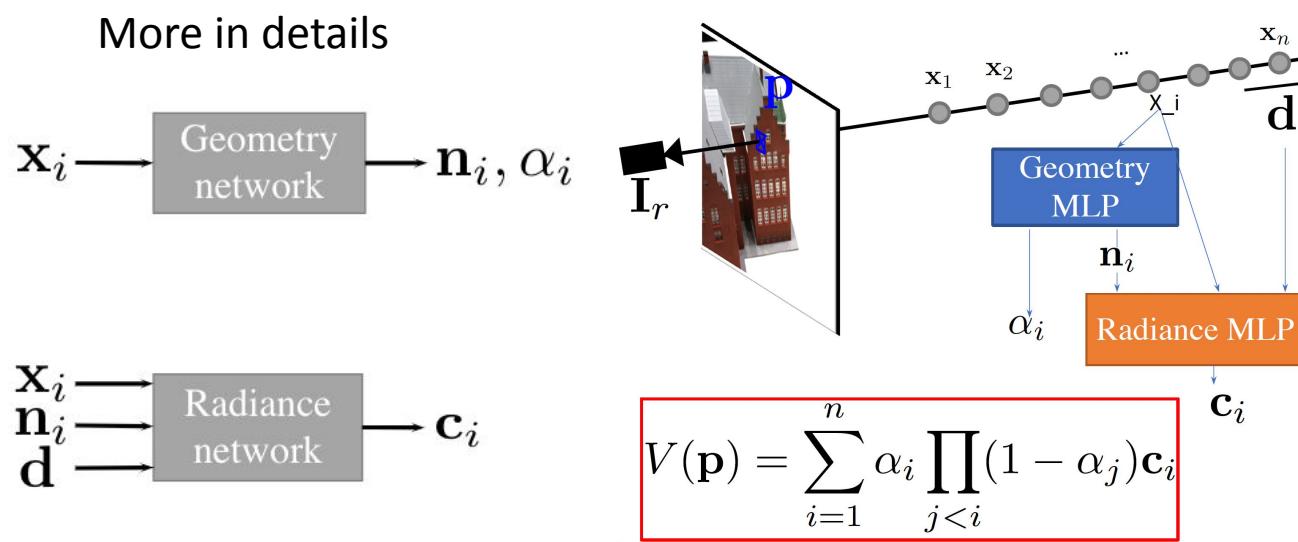
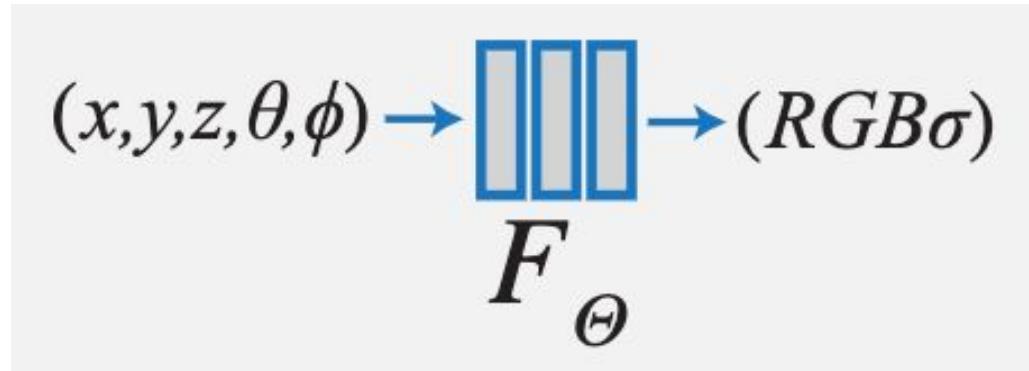
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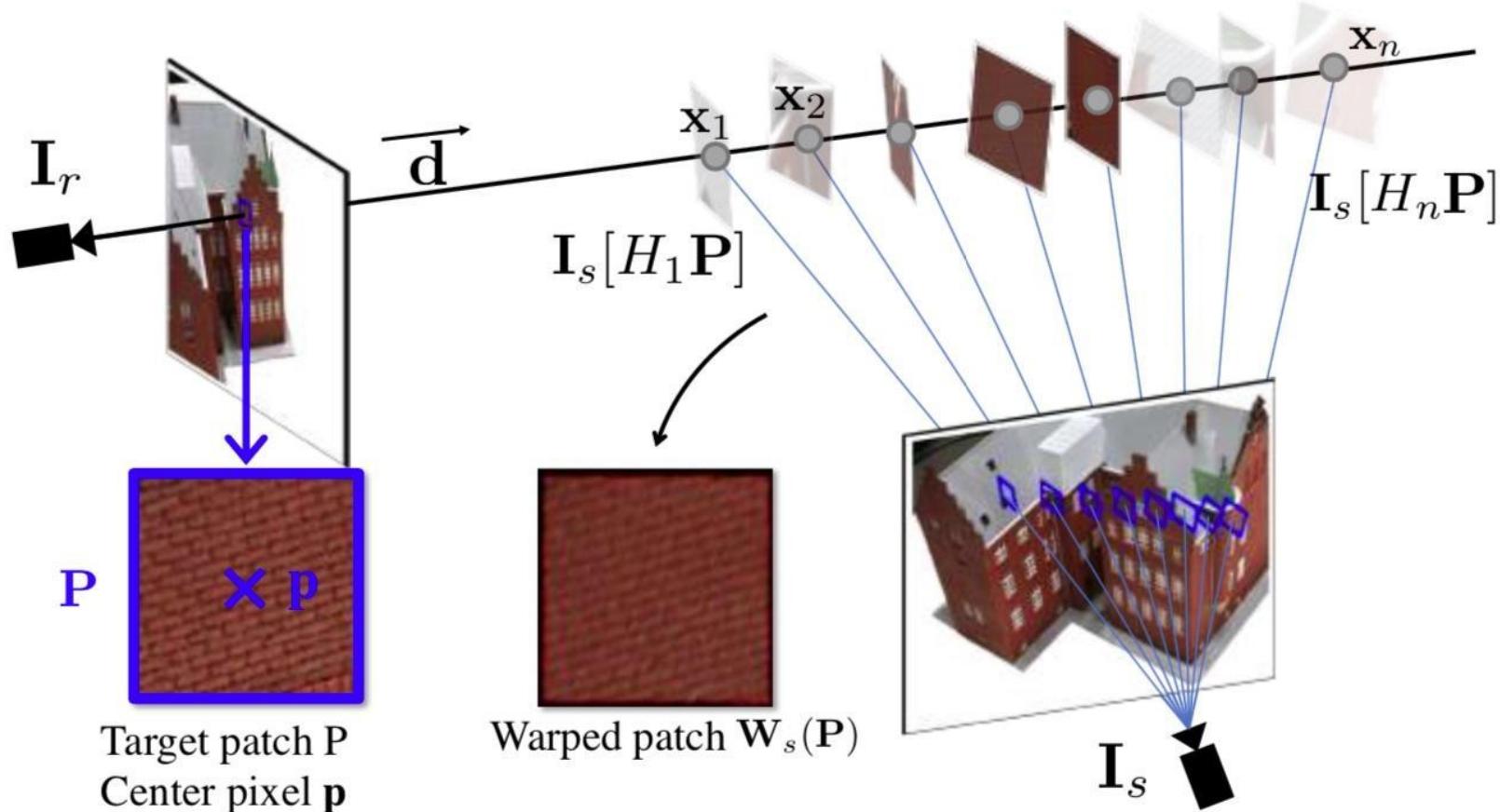
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There are tons of paper over the last 2-5 years,  
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# Parametric scene / NeRF [Mildenhall20]



# Can use correspondences



**NeuralWarp: Improving neural implicit surfaces geometry with patch warping**  
F. Darmon, B. Basclé, J.-C. Devaux, P. Monasse, M. Aubry  
CVPR 2022

[Github](#)

2,312

[colab](#) Search

## GETTING STARTED

[Installation](#)[Training your first model](#)[Using custom data](#)[Using the viewer](#)[Data conventions](#)[Contributing](#)

## NERFOLOGY

[Methods](#)[Model components](#)

Nerfstudio provides a simple API that allows for a simplified end-to-end process of creating, training, and visualizing NeRFs. The library supports an **interpretable implementation of NeRFs by modularizing each component**. With modular NeRF components, we hope to create a user-friendly experience in exploring the technology. Nerfstudio is a contributor-friendly repo with the goal of building a community where users can easily build upon each other's contributions.

It's as simple as plug and play with nerfstudio!

# Conclusion

- Detection-description powerful idea, part of SFM success with classical detector-descriptors as SIFT
- Lots of classical approaches are being “deepified”, i.e. formulated as modular and end-to-end learnable framework, with important performance gains
- Tricks from classical approach often remain important in NN-architectures
- Are NeRFs the future of MVS?